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MARSHAL PETAIN REJECTS NAZI DEMANDS

BOMBS DROPPED IN ULSTER

The dropping of bombs in Northern Ireland was announced in an official statement by the Northern Ireland Ministry of Public Security yesterday.

The statement says: "On several occasions during the past week enemy aircraft have been identified operating over Northern Ireland."

"Bombs have been dropped, all of which fell in open country. No damage was caused and there were no casualties."—Reuter.

MANCHESTER CASUALTIES NOT GREAT

The number of fatal casualties in the raid on Manchester on Sunday night is comparatively small in view of the severity of the attack, it was stated in London last night, says Reuter.

But Fears Of Blitz Action Against Vichy Diminish

FRANCE IS ANXIOUSLY AWAITING HITLER'S NEXT MOVE FOLLOWING REPORTS THAT MARSHAL PETAIN HAS FIRMLY REFUSED GERMAN DEMANDS BOTH FOR MILITARY COOPERATION AND THE REINSTATEMENT OF PIERRE LAVAL AS FOREIGN MINISTER.

While fears of imminent "blitz" action by the German army against unoccupied France have given place to a note of moderate optimism, it is realised that the danger is by no means past.

Flandin is reported to profess confidence that Hitler will be satisfied with Marshal Petain's reply in which concessions of some kind are evidently made.

Neutral observers are asking whether the possibility of Marshal Petain ordering the resumption of French resistance, on the plea that the armistice is being violated, will be enough to restrain the Nazi war machine.

It is pointed out that the Germans, anxious as they are to gain a foothold on the shores of the Mediterranean and to seize France's submarine fleet, must be sorely tempted to march if "peaceful pressure" fails.

Marshal Petain is fighting hard to keep his word to the French people that France's unity will be maintained—to gain time to strengthen the discipline of unoccupied France and the French colonies.

Army Inspection

That this is more than a mere phrase is indicated by the recent activity of General Huntziger, Minister of War, who has just inspected France's armistice army and the French fleet at Toulon and in North Africa.

General Weygand and General Bergeret, Minister for Air, have completed visits to all chief centres in France's African colonies and in Syria.

Meanwhile Swiss correspondents, reporting that a feeling of hopefulness is now noticed in Vichy, say that Frenchmen are anxiously watching the demarcation line separating them from Nazi-occupied territory.

Presented On Sunday

The French reply to Hitler's demands was presented to Abetz, Ribbentrop's representative in Paris, by the Comte de Brinon, Vichy's delegate-general in occupied territory, on Sunday, according to the "Gazette de Lausanne."

The newspaper's Vichy correspondent says that though nothing is known of the exact number of German demands or the reply, "the atmosphere which reigned in Vichy last week has disappeared as if by a

NEW TAXES IN CANTON NEXT YEAR

An interesting sidelight on Canton government activities is provided by an item in the "Canton Daily Sun," which notified those interested that bids are open for monopolies in the Pun-yu district.

Monopolies put to tender are:—gambling, a minimum of Y6,400 a month; sugar, Y10,000 per annum, and joss paper and candles Y2,000 per annum.

The paper states that according to a Municipal Government report four new types of taxes are to be enforced early next year. They are an amusement tax, tax on fresh sea products imported into the city, a tax on prostitution and a tax on advertising. — Reuter.

WASTES OF FLAME SPREAD OVER MANNHEIM AREA

SPREADING WASTES OF FLAME WERE SEEN BY R.A.F. PILOTS AFTER DROPPING THEIR BOMBS IN SUNDAY NIGHT'S RAID ON MANNHEIM.

Most damage was done in the neighbourhood of the main railway station and on the Ludwigshafen side of the Rhine.

The raid was the seventh on Mannheim since the beginning of December.

It is already known from sources other than reports of British pilots that great damage was done in earlier raids, which were by no means the most severe.

The Rhine harbour was hit and barges sunk, and it is revealed that the traffic which helps give Mannheim its position as the most important industrial centre in south-west Germany was seriously impeded.

Mannheim is also a vital railway junction, and traffic to France had to be diverted to another and less satisfactory line.—Reuter.

HALIFAX ASSURED OF WELCOME

The appointment of Lord Halifax as British Ambassador to the United States is highly welcomed by the United States Government.

Mr. Cordell Hull, Secretary of State, has issued a statement to this effect, adding that Lord Halifax's record was such as to commend him to the United States as Ambassador.

Mr. Cordell Hull states he looks forward with pleasure to working with Lord Halifax. — Reuter.

treaty before its expiration on Dec. 31 is said to be receding.

It is also learned that the present negotiations are not even for a permanent pact, as provided in the present modus vivendi, but only for an extension of the existing arrangement. — Reuter.

SOVIET STICKY ON FISHERIES

IT WAS UNDERSTOOD FROM OFFICIAL SOURCES IN TOKYO YESTERDAY THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN JAPAN AND SOVIET RUSSIA FOR A FISHERIES AGREEMENT ARE MEETING WITH DIFFICULTIES.

For this reason the Japanese hope of replacing the temporary

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HEIR TO FURNESS MILLIONS MISSING BELIEVED KILLED

A BRITISH OFFICER who was reported "missing believed killed" is now named chief heir to the Furness millions.

He is the Hon. Christopher Furness, son of Viscount Furness, ship-builder and industrialist, who died in October leaving unsettled estate valued at over £3,661,000, of which £1,850,000 estate duty has been paid.

Viscount Furness left seven-eighths of the residue of the property upon trust for his son, Christopher.

It was revealed in London yesterday that in spite of far-reaching inquiries, no news of Christopher has been received since he fell leading his platoon in France on May 24.

No-one has seen him dead. There is no information of his being a prisoner of war. Inquiries in France have had no result. It is considered that the succession to the title cannot be determined until the end of the war.

William Anthony

In the event of the death of Christopher Furness being presumed, the new Lord Furness

will be the seven-year-old William Anthony, son of the Viscount by his second wife, now Mrs. Thelma Converse.

William Anthony was bequeathed the remaining eighth of the residue of the Viscount's property.—Reuter.

PETAIN'S APPEAL

AN APPEAL FOR THE RESTORATION OF "IMPARTIALITY, FIRMNESS, DISCIPLINE AND HONOUR" IN ALL RANKS OF THE FRENCH COLONIAL SERVICE, WAS MADE BY ADMIRAL PLATON, MINISTER FOR COLONIES, YES-

IMMIGRATION PETITION REJECTED

The Chinese Chamber of Commerce petition for postponement of the enforcement of the Immigration Ordinance to February 15, 1941, has been rejected.

The Ordinance will be enforced on January 14, 1941.

TERDAY.

In a circular to colonial governors, Platon urges: "In the exercise of your authority let all your acts be inspired by the duty which devolves on all Frenchmen to take part with vigour and confidence in the work of national rehabilitation laid down by Marshal Petain." — Reuter.

R.A.F. Onslaught On Aerodromes In Libya

A BIG ONSLAUGHT by the R.A.F. on Italian air bases behind the Libyan war front was reported in yesterday's R.A.F. communique in Cairo, as well as a big air battle in Albania.

Aerodromes at Berka and Benina — two main reinforcement dromes near Benghazi — were heavily raided on the night of Dec. 21.

EMPIRE AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

The Empire air training scheme in Canada is well ahead of schedule; this was revealed yesterday by Col. J. L. Ralston, Canadian Minister of Defence, who is visiting England for discussions with the Government and military authorities.

In an interview with Reuter Col. Ralston said the air training scheme called for 104 schools and institutions of various sorts by next autumn.

"I am in a position to say that these establishments will be completed six months earlier than the programme."

Canada, he said, would be spending on the scheme three times more than was called for and the number of graduates from air training establishments would be doubled.

United Wholeheartedly

Plans for aerodrome development would be completed before Dec. 31.

The flow of airmen from Canada, compared with what was called for, was most satisfactory.

"I can assure you, as I have assured Mr. Churchill and members of the United Kingdom Govern-

ment, that Canada is united wholeheartedly — as Canada never was before — in every activity that will help in connection with the war effort." — Reuter.

"Big fires were started at Berka while at Benina three hangars were left burning and badly damaged and aircraft on the ground machine-gunned from 500 feet.

Considerable damage was caused the same night at the Italian stronghold of Tobruk, where British bombers attacked the harbour and military objectives.

Albania Air Battle

A fierce air battle took place over Argyrokastron between nine British fighters and over 50 Italian planes.

Eight enemy fighters were definitely shot down and three more probably destroyed, while two British planes were lost.

The R.A.F. communique continues: "The pilot of one British machine was seen being machine-gunned by Italian fighters while he was descending by parachute.

"He died half an hour after he was found from wounds received during his parachute descent.

Second Occasion

"It is placed on record that this is the second occasion since hostilities began in the Middle East that irrefutable evidence has been received of an R.A.F. pilot having been machine-gunned while making a parachute descent.

"This follows the practice of Italian pilots adopted in the Spanish war."

The communique adds that oil wells at Kucove, in central Albania, were raided by R.A.F. bombers on Sunday.

One enemy aircraft is believed to have been shot down while two British aircraft failed to return. — Reuter.

ment, that Canada is united wholeheartedly — as Canada never was before — in every activity that will help in connection with the war effort." — Reuter.

EDEN APPOINTMENT CAUSES OUTBURST OF NAZI WRATH

AN OUTBURST OF WRATH in the German press has greeted the appointment of Mr. Anthony Eden as Foreign Secretary.

The "Boersen Zeitung" writes: "With Eden there comes to the Foreign Office a man whose activities have been dictated by a pathological hatred of the authoritarian States.

WHOSE SEA?

ITALIAN CLAIMS TO RULE THE MEDITERRANEAN CAUSE GREAT AMUSEMENT THROUGHOUT THE MIDDLE EAST. SUCH CLAIMS PARTICULARLY AMUSE PILOTS OF THE ROYAL AIR FORCE.

It is asked: "If the Italians have driven us from the Mediterranean why is it they don't rescue their airmen shot down by the R.A.F. and the crews of bombed submarines?"

The Navy has been quite busy recently picking up half-drowned Italian airmen. On one occasion, a British flying boat, on patrol in the Mediterranean, first sank a

submarine and then proceeded to alight on the sea and pick up survivors.

"With this appointment London expects an improvement in British-Russian relations and suffers the attitude to Japan, Spain and other members of the Axis."

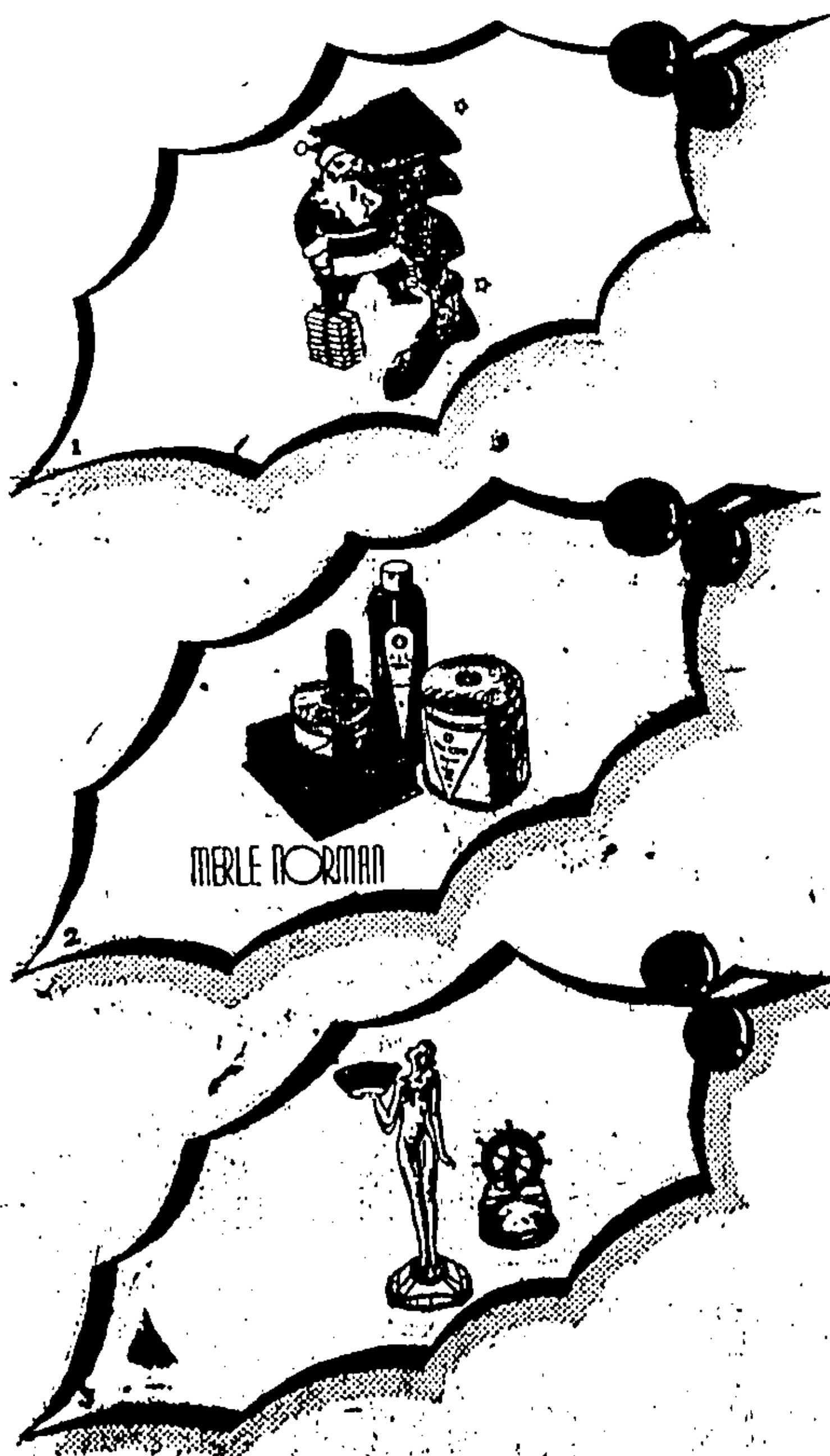
"The answer to these illusions will be a crushing one. All these nations, including the Soviet, will only see the true face of England more clearly for the appointment of Eden."

The "Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung" says: "Those who have whipped England into war—Churchill, Eden and Margesson—are now on the spot where they deserve to be."

"All three are burdened with the guilt of war and are now branded with full responsibility for Britain's decline, which their policy has brought about." — Reuter.



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ITALIANS INVITED TO THINK

Mr. Churchill Suggests Disavowal Of Mussolini

WHIP TO CABINET RANK

His Majesty the King held a Privy Council at Buckingham Palace yesterday morning at which Mr. Anthony Eden received his seals of office as the new Foreign Secretary and Captain Margesson as the Secretary for War.

They kissed hands on their appointment.

Mr. Eden took over at the Foreign Office yesterday. He is no stranger there, for he was Foreign Secretary from 1925 to 1933.

His return is widely welcomed by the British press, and Viscount Cranborne, who will go to the House of Lords as Government spokesman on foreign policy, will renew his collaboration with Mr. Eden, for from 1935 to 1938 he was Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs.

He resigned with Mr. Eden because neither supported Mr. Chamberlain's policy of appeasing Italy.

The choice of Captain Margesson is somewhat unusual, as he has been Chief Government Whip for nine years and has never yet held Cabinet rank.

His organising ability and strong sense of discipline are expected to fit him well for the post of Secretary of State for War. — Reuter.

GENEROUS GIFT OF MALAYAN CHINESE

AS A RESULT OF A BIG DRIVE BY THE CHINESE COMMUNITY OF MALAYA A FORT-NIGHT AGO, £30,000 HAS BEEN RAISED FOR THE LORD MAYOR'S AIR-RAID DISTRESS FUND.

The money will be sent to London shortly. — Reuter.



CAN'T SLEEP NIGHTS?

A hot cup of Cocomalt before retiring induces sound and restful sleep.



2APB2

Need Destruction Of Italy Go On

A DRAMATIC APPEAL TO THE ITALIAN NATION TO DISAVOW MUSSOLINI AND TO FOLLOW THE HOUSE OF SAVOY WAS MADE BY THE PRIME MINISTER, MR. WINSTON CHURCHILL, BROADCASTING FROM LONDON LAST NIGHT.

Mr. Churchill also revealed for the first time that messages had passed between him and the Duce just prior to Italy's entry into the war — messages which disclosed that Italy only took up arms against Britain because of her treaty with Germany.

"To-night," said Mr. Churchill, "I speak to the Italian people, and I speak to you from London, the heart of the British Islands and of the British Commonwealth and Empire.

"I speak to you what diplomats call words of great truth and respect. We are at war—that is a very strange and terrible thought.

"Whoever would imagine, until the last few melancholy years, that the British and Italian nations would be trying to destroy one another?

"We have always been friends. We were the champions of the Italian risorgimento. We were partisans of Garibaldi, Mazzini and Cavour.

Liberal Movement

"All that great movement towards liberty of the Italian nation which lighted the 19th Century was aided and was hailed by the British Parliament and public.

"Our fathers and our grandfathers longed to see Italy freed from the Austrian yoke and to see all minor barriers in Italy swept away so that the Italian people and their fair land might take their honoured place as one of the leading powers upon the Continent and as a brilliant and gifted member of the family of Europe and of Christendom.

"We have never been your foes until now. In the last war, against the barbarous Huns, we were your comrades.

"For fifteen years after that war we were your friends.

"Although the institutions which you adopted after the war were not akin to ours and diverged, as we think, from the sovereign impulses which had commanded the unity of Italy, we could still walk together in peace and goodwill.

Amity And Esteem

"Many thousands of our people dwelt with you in Italy. We liked each other, we got on well together. There were reciprocal services, there was amity, there was esteem.

"And now we are at war; now we are condemned to work each other's ruin. Our aviators are tearing and will tear your African Empire to shreds and tatters.

"We are only now at the beginning of this sombre tale. Who can say where it will end? Presently we shall be forced to come to much closer grips.

One Man

"How has all this come about and what is it all for? Italians, I will tell you the truth.

"It is all because of one man. One man and one man alone has ranged the Italian people in a deadly struggle against the British Empire and has deprived Italy of the sympathy and intimacy of the United States of America.

"That he is a great man I do not deny; but that after eighteen years of unbridled power he has led your country to the verge of ruin can be denied by none.

"It is all one man who, against the Crown and Royal Family, against the Pope and all

the authority of the Vatican and of the Roman Catholic Church, against the wishes of the Italian people, who had no lust for this war, has arrayed the inheritors of ancient Rome upon the side of the pagan barbarians.

Tragedy Of History

"There is the tragedy of Italian history and there stands the criminal who has wrought it.

"What is the defence that is put forward for his action? It is, of course, the quarrel about Sanctions and Abyssinia. Let us look at that.

"Together after the last war Italy and Britain both signed the Covenant of the League of Nations, which forbid all parties to that Covenant to make war upon each other or upon fellow members of the League, and bound all signatories to come to the aid of any member who was attacked by another.

"Presently Abyssinia came knocking at the door asking to be a member. We British advised against it. We doubted whether they had reached a stage in their development which warranted their inclusion, but it was Mussolini who insisted that Abyssinia should become a member of the League, and who therefore bound himself and bound you and us to respect their covenanted rights.

What Need?

"I declare—and my words will be for—that nothing that happened in that Abyssinian quarrel can count for or justify the deadly war which has now broken out between us.

"Then the great war between the British and French democracies and the Prussian militarists or Nazi dictatorship began again.

"Where was the need of Italy to intervene? Where was the need to strike at prostrate France? Where was the need to invade Egypt, which is under British protection?

"We were content with Italian neutrality. During the first eight months of the war we paid great deference to Italian interests.

But this was all put down to fear.

"Now that I have taken up my office as Prime Minister and Minister of Defence, I look back to our meeting in Rome and feel a desire to speak words of goodwill to you, as chief of the Italian nation, across what seems to be a swiftly widened gulf.

Is It Too Late?

"Is it too late to stop a river of blood from flowing between the British and Italian peoples?

"We can, no doubt, inflict grievous injuries upon one another and maul each other cruelly and darken the Mediterranean with our strife.

"It is idle to predict the course of the great battles now raging in Europe, but I am sure that what

may happen on the Continent, England will go on to the end, even quite alone, as we have done before, and I believe with some assurance that we shall be aided in increasing measure by the United States, and indeed by all Americas.

"This is the gist of a letter I sent to Signor Mussolini when I became Prime Minister.

Choice Open

"I make no comment upon the Duce's answer. It speaks for itself. Anyone can see who it was that wanted peace and who it was that meant to have war.

"One man and only one man was resolved to pledge Italy after all these years of strain and effort into the whirlpool of war.

"What is the position of Italy to-day? Where is it that the Duce has led his distrustful people after eighteen years of duceatorial power?

"What hard choice is open now? It is to stand up to the battery of the whole British Empire on the sea, in the air, and in Africa, and to the vigorous counter-attack of Greece.

"There is one man and one only who has led you there.

"I leave this unfolding until the day comes—as come it will—when the Italian nation will once more take the shaping of its own fortunes."—Reuter.

ITALIAN APOLOGY FOR DEFEAT

The remarkable "apology" issued by the Italian news agency in the form of reports from Marshal Graziani on the operations in the Western Desert has aroused some comment in military circles in London.

The Italian High Command is at pains to say that the Fascist troops "resisted nobly but the weight of attack was too much."

A similar tribute is paid to the R.A.F. when the Italian High Command says that they could not make the full weight of the Italian air force felt because of bad weather.

No explanation is given why the weather should have been worse for the Italians than it was for the R.A.F. in the same sky!

Graziani's point that he was not taken by surprise only makes the Italian defence seem even more inefficient.

It is not clear why Graziani should say he had adequate supplies of guns to deal with any movement from the south when in fact the British attacked from that direction. — Reuter.

NAVAL BUILDING IN CANADA

Britain has placed orders in Canada for another 12 mine-sweepers. This brings the total number of naval vessels to be built in Canadian shipyards up to 120.—Reuter.

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Both Local and Coastal

36,000 PRISONERS AND THOUSANDS MORE TO BE COUNTED

THE NUMBER OF Italians taken prisoner in the Western Desert is now set at almost 36,000—with several thousands more waiting to be counted. Bardia is still being shelled while British preparations continue outside it.

G.H.Q., Cairo, yesterday announced that prisoners evacuated from the main Sidi Barani area now total 35,949, including 1,704 officers.

Several thousand more have not yet been brought in from the forward camps.

It is pointed out in London that Bardia is a different proposition from Sidi Barani.

At Sidi Barani, the Italians had erected no elaborate defences as they could in the two months they were there.

Bardia, in the other hand, has been defended ever since the Italians arrived in Libya. There are permanent fortifications running round it for some seven or eight miles in every direction. There are also a large number of coastal-defence guns.

The importance of Bardia is shown in a recent Rome broadcast which said:—

"The defence of Bardia is not only the defence of Libya but also of Fascism."

Bardia's port is only of minor importance. Two ships can go in at one time, but there is only a small pier with about 10 feet of water. All embarkation and disembarkation has to be by lighters and boats, and bad weather easily interferes with such operations.

There is, actually, no port of any size between Alexandria and Tobruk.

The Sidi Barani anchorage is entirely exposed and there is only a small pier at which boats can land. To embark the Italian prisoners, the Navy had a very difficult job requiring special organisation.

At Mersa Matruh, ships of any size have to stay out at sea. There are two jetties with about 12 feet of water. — Reuter.

JAPANESE MURDERED

YET ANOTHER JAPANESE SERVICEMAN HAS BEEN MURDERED IN THE JAPANESE-CONTROLLED AREA OF SHANGHAI.

The fourteenth Japanese victim in recent weeks is Satoshi Miyazaki, a Japanese consular policeman, who was "brutally murdered by three unidentified Chinese last Friday night" in Nantao, the Japanese-occupied district adjoining the French Concession, according to the Japanese press in Shanghai to-day.

Fifteen slashes were found on Miyazaki when he was picked up and rushed to hospital, where he died shortly afterwards.

It is believed he was attacked with a meat chopper. — Reuter.

WAITING GAME BY WAVELL ARMY IN LIBYA

The British forces in Libya are playing a waiting game. Apart from a steady stream of reinforcements consolidating the positions around Bardia and intermittent shelling there is nothing further to report. — Reuter.

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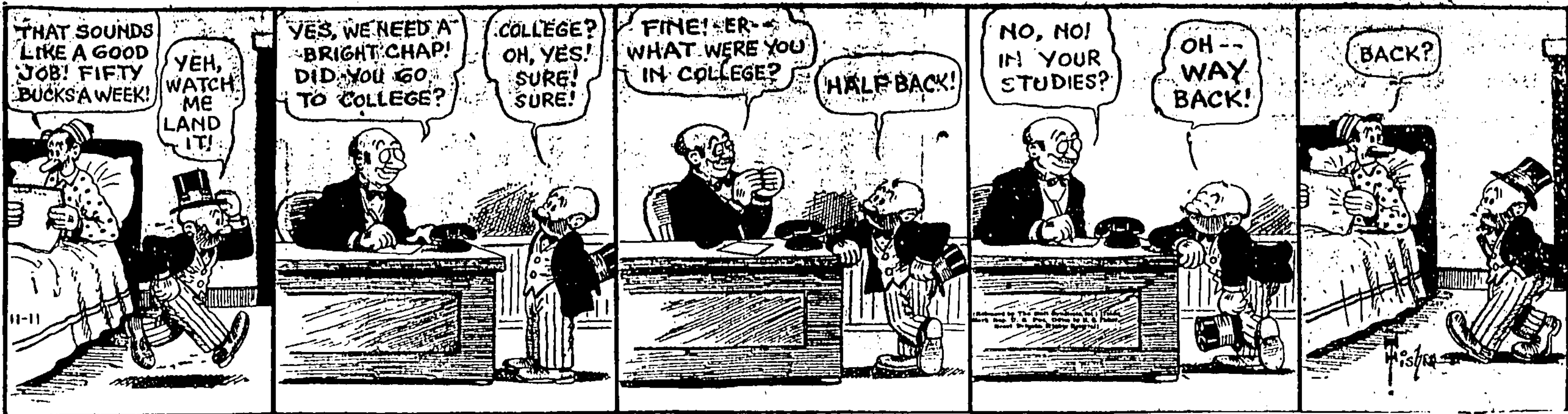
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7-MINUTE RADIO "CURE" FOR A COLD

MR. ERNEST BEVIN, the Minister of Labour, has instructed officials of his department to investigate a short-wave radio cure for the common cold.

The cure is being practised by J. P. P. Stock, of Stoke-on-Trent, who has tried it out on more than 100 patients, and claims successful results in more than 70 per cent. of these cases.

It was demonstrated to Mr. Bevin when he was inspecting a factory the other day. The Minister was greatly impressed.

The common cold, he pointed

out, probably causes more loss of working hours than Goering's bombers.

One of Dr. Stock's associates said:

"The patient is placed in the circuit of a short-wave wireless transmission, and the apparatus has two electrodes which hang in front of the forehead and at the back of the head.

"The first treatment lasts about seven minutes, and the second—if a second is necessary—for ten minutes.

"The patient feels nothing except a faint and decidedly comforting glow. In most cases the cold disappears within a few hours.

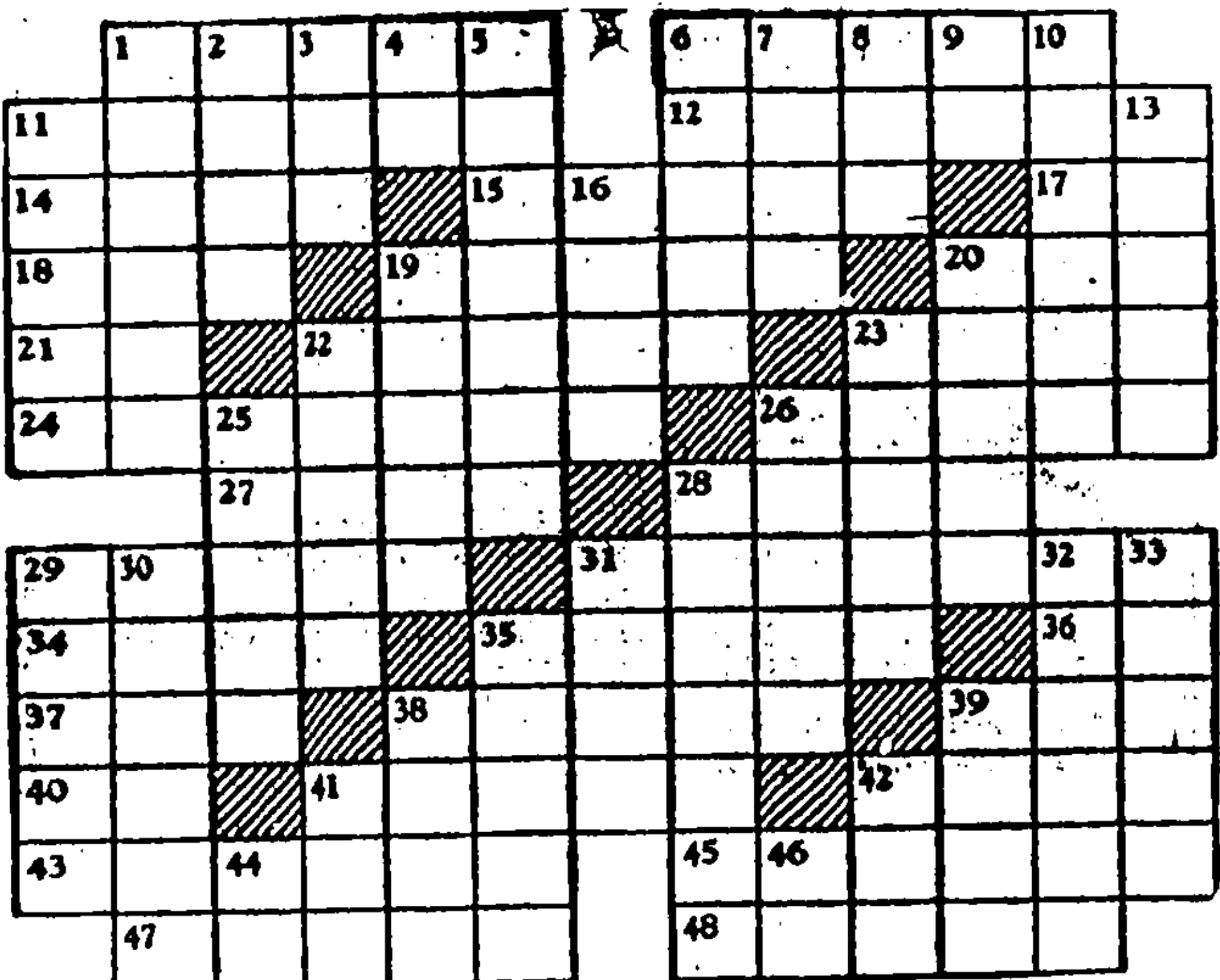
"Dr. Stock discovered the treatment by accident when he was experimenting to discover a cure for asthma."

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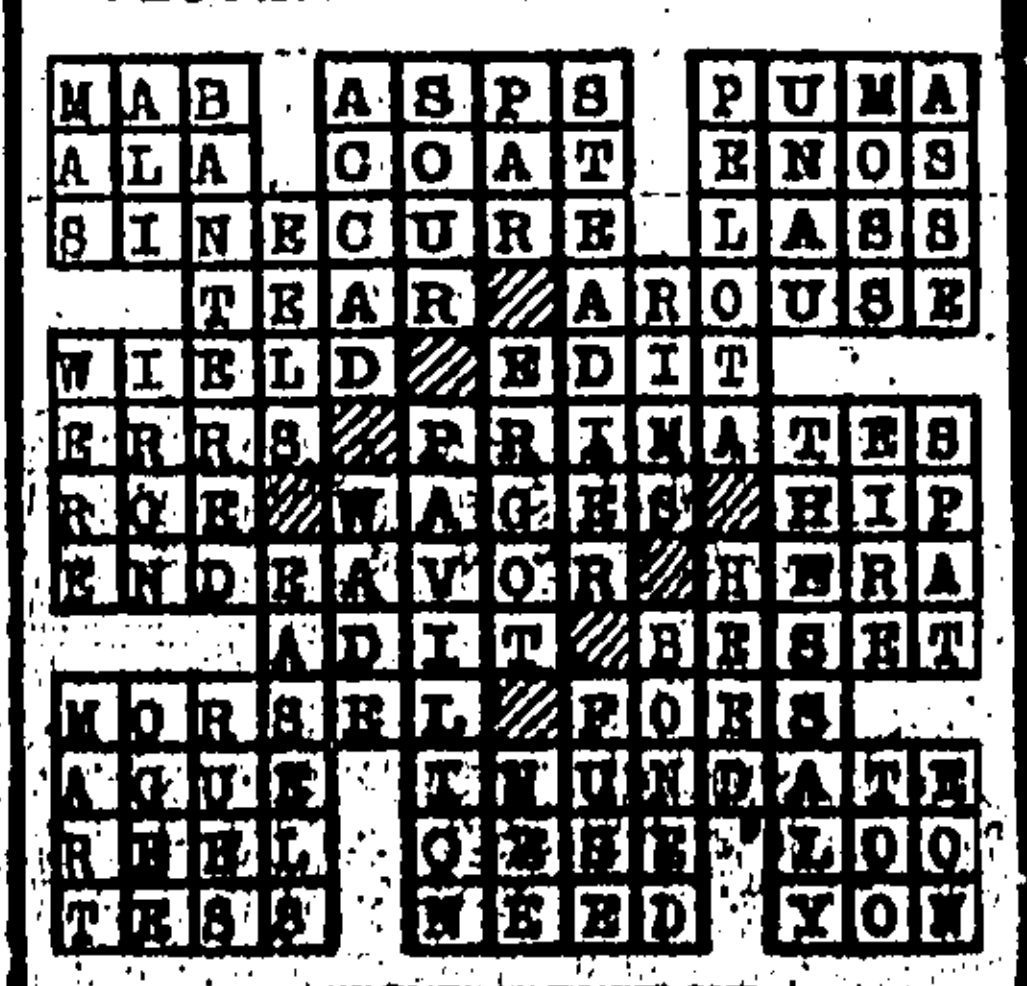
HORIZONTAL

- 1 To shroud
- 6 Person indifferent to pleasure or pain
- 11 Mark of infamy
- 12 To journey
- 14 Roman emperor
- 15 Colloquial: impudence
- 17 Artificial language
- 18 Poetic: to unclose
- 19 Long-legged bird
- 20 Spanish hero
- 21 Above
- 22 Backbone
- 23 To destroy
- 24 Fabric capable of being woven
- 26 Conflagration
- 27 Ireland
- 28 Roman mid-day meal
- 29 Pace between a walk and a trot
- 31 Raised
- 34 To pare
- 35 To combine
- 36 Eleven
- 37 Moccasin

VERTICAL

- 1 Treeless plain
- 2 To employ
- 3 The self
- 4 Printer's measure
- 5 Pertaining to the sense of touch
- 6 Metric measure
- 7 Organised migration
- 8 Acorn-bearing tree
- 9 Four
- 10 Cherry-colour
- 11 Animal's nose
- 13 Metal-bearing veins
- 16 To sharpen
- 19 Steeple
- 20 Jewel measure
- 22 Yet
- 23 To wash lightly
- 25 Three-masted vessel
- 26 To simulate
- 28 Garland
- 29 To frighten
- 30 Beam
- 31 Mythological Greek priestess
- 32 Superabundance
- 33 Likewise
- 35 Billiard shot
- 36 Japanese aborigine
- 39 Footless animal
- 41 Swamp
- 42 To transgress
- 44 Japanese money
- 46 Sun god

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION



CRASHED AFTER A DOG-FIGHT

Pilot Surprises Hotel Guests

(Miss Helen Kirkpatrick, of the London staff of the Chicago "Daily News," sent the following message to her paper:)

A slightly battered young R.A.F. fighter pilot wandered into my hotel after having been brought down. His entrance was, to say the least, sensational.

It was around dinner hour, and the hotel lobby was packed with that curious assortment of people whose prototypes filled the Ritz Hotel, Madrid, and Bordeaux's Royal Gascogne during the bitter days of those countries' struggles. Suddenly the swinging door revolved and into the brilliant light walked a young R.A.F. pilot with parachute harness, flying boots, and gear. He had a deep cut down his forehead.

Quickly a crowd gathered round, but he made straight for a group captain in one corner. Later I was invited to join them, and his story came out.

He had been in a fierce dog-fight over the South-East Coast. There were lots of Germans—probably that big formation which had tried to get through to London but did not succeed.

Could Not Bale Out

His story of the fight was slightly confused. He only knew it was a hot one, with lots and lots of "planes all mixed up. He thought he had brought down one Nazi, anyway, and just as he was straightening up to attack another he saw flying beside his Spitfire an enemy aircraft.

"Suddenly he gave it to me and I knew he'd got me," said the pilot. "I tried to bale out, but couldn't make it, so I made a crash landing in a field. My Spitfire's tail was hanging by only four rivets."

In his crash landing he had hit his head against the windshield, but the farmer in whose field he had landed helped him to fix that up and fed him. Then he started to make his way back to his station somewhere north of London. He had got as far as London when night and a raid made it difficult for him to find his way to the station. Someone in a private car had picked him up near the station and dropped him on the doorstep of the hotel.

I asked for him later, but they said he had gone off to his squadron.

"ALL SERGEANTS" RAID

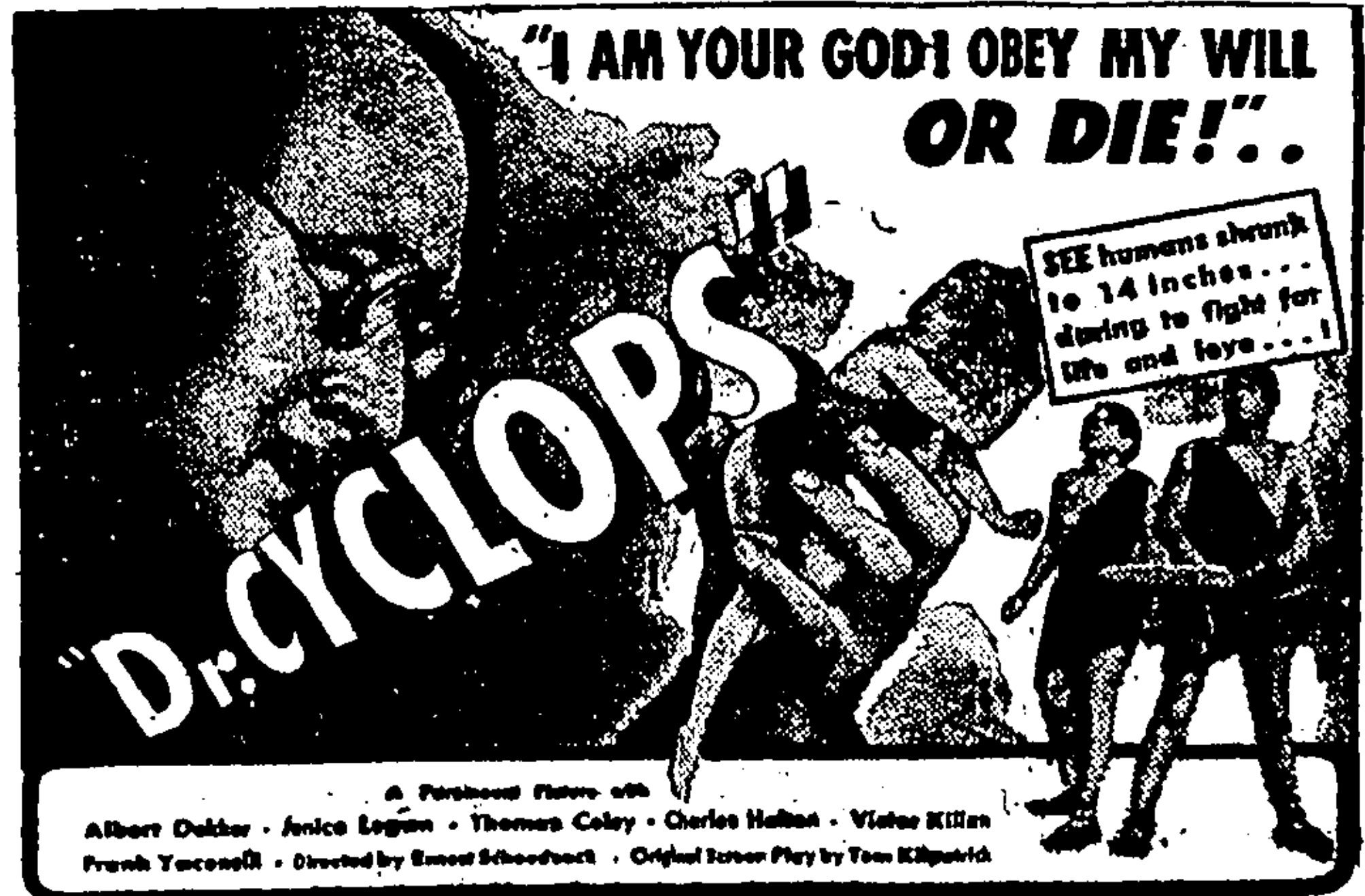
One of the recent very successful raids on the German-occupied aerodrome at St. Omer was carried out entirely by Sergeants. Each of the bombers engaged had a sergeant pilot at the controls, accompanied by a sergeant observer and a sergeant air gunner.

Several of the sergeant pilots were old hands, but one making his first raid on the enemy, was also the first to reach the target. As soon as he dropped his bombs a cluster of searchlights caught and held his aircraft, and while it was still in the beam several enemy fighters converged to attack. Dodging swiftly, the pilot dived off into the darkness and the fighters lost him.

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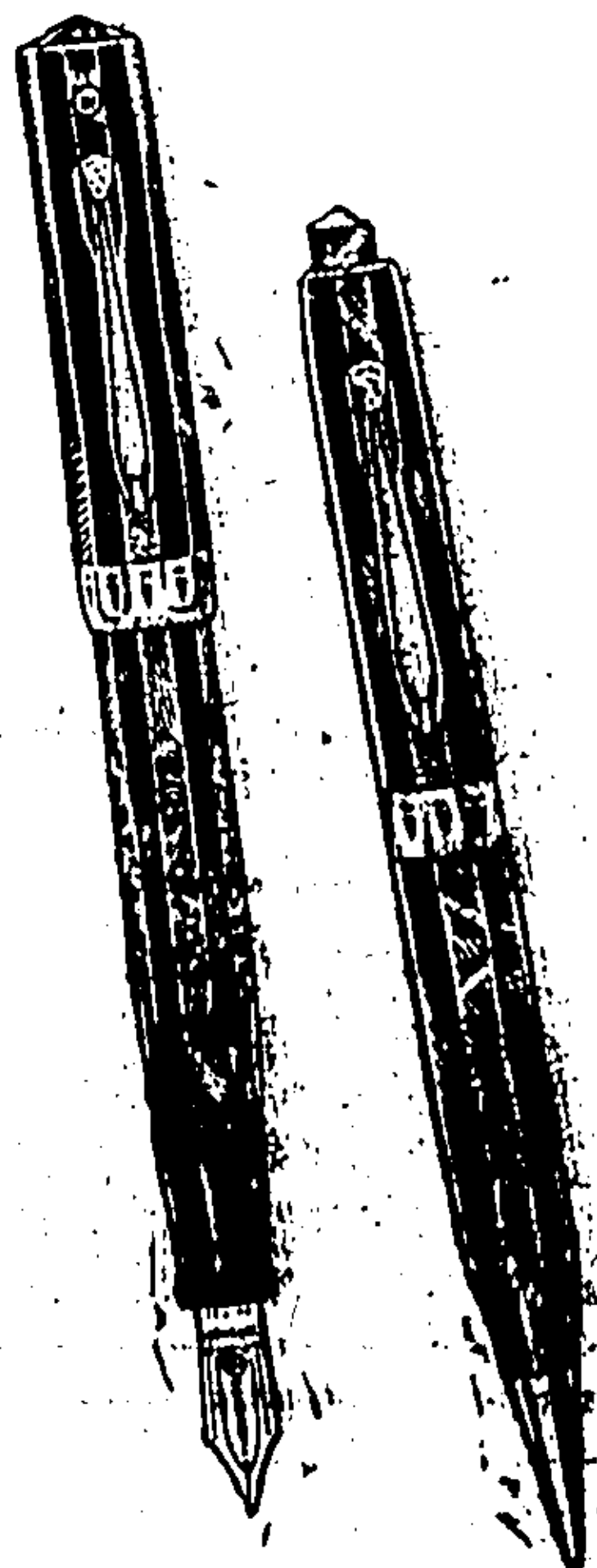
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Lew Ayres, Lionel Barrymore and Director Harold S. Bucquet have a farewell chat with Dr. Montgomery, medical technical advisor on "Dr. Kildare's Crisis," who left the picture when called to serve as First Lieutenant in the United States Army.

NAZI SUICIDE SQUAD MEND SHATTERED NERVES IN NORWAY

LARGE NUMBERS of German pilots and air-men are now resting in Norway. They are men who have been bombing London, and according to statements by a man just returned from that country, they are far from a happy band.

"They are known as the Suicide Squad," he said. "A number are pilots who used to fly passenger planes between Germany and London. Few, however, are volunteers. The daylight raids are referred to as 'death trips.'"

The German pilots based in France, Belgium, or Holland, after two or three raids over England, are ordered to fly their machines to airfields in Norway. Even though they fly from a French base on their first raid over England, they do not return to it. They go to a base in another part of France, or to Belgium or Holland.

This is part of the practice carried out by the German High Command to keep the pilots from talking of their experiences or speculating as to losses sustained.

"We never know where we are going after a raid over London," one pilot said. "Sometimes we fly under sealed orders, at others a radio message comes through while we are in the air. During raids we have to maintain radio touch with headquarters and report progress."

Although there is no apparent shortage of skilled pilots and crews Germany is now adopting methods of compulsion to obtain pilots. Young officers are taken from cavalry and other regiments and ordered to report for air training.

Recently three young officers of a famous cavalry regiment were ordered to report for training as bomber pilots. The other officers in the mess decided to give a farewell dinner to them. The dinner became known as the "Farewell to the Suicide Squad."

Result, the organisers were placed under arrest, and all who attended were punished by being sent to danger posts.

Norway to-day is being prepared as the jumping-off ground for intensive raids over Northern England and Scotland in the spring.

Looted Everything

"The Germans," said my informant, "have looted everything and sent great quantities of food into Germany. Meat can be had on only one day a week — if supplies are available. Most of the butchers' shops are closed."

"Civilians are now living mostly on vegetables they have grown themselves."

German propagandists are spreading stories throughout Norway of the imminent collapse of England. A few weeks ago they

were saying that invasion was about to begin or had taken place from France and Belgium.

"Actually the Germans transported thousands of troops to Norway to train them for the impending invasion. There were many rehearsals on the coast, the troops being taken to sea in small steamers and fishing craft."

"Many of these troops had never seen the sea, much less experienced its behaviour. They went aboard the vessels full of glee. How different was their return. Some had actually to be carried ashore. They would have been a pretty fine invading army for the British to deal with."

Although the air pilots admit that their losses have been in excess of what the most pessimistic anticipated, they say that there is no real shortage of materials.

MAN AND WIFE GET AWARDS

A railwayman and his wife both received from Lord Stamp, chairman of the L.M.S., awards for courage during an air raid.

When German planes made sustained attacks on a depot, Chief Foreman J. H. Taylor returned to duty and took charge of operations until he was exhausted.

Many vehicles and fifty-one horses were saved from being burned largely through assistance fetched by Mrs. Taylor while the raid was in progress. Chief Foreman Taylor was given the Stamp Medal, which was introduced last January for courage and special devotion to duty, and the company presented Mrs. Taylor with a gold wristlet watch.

Dockgate W. J. Mansell has been awarded a bar to the Stamp Medal he won in February for a rescue from drowning.

In darkness, with German planes overhead and anti-aircraft gunfire, he dived, fully clothed, into a dock to rescue a colleague.

The lifeline to the first lifebuoy thrown to the drowning man was carried away, and Mansell supported him until a second lifebuoy was thrown.

LIMPING SPY SOLD RUMANIA

Junipers 87s circled low over the railway station as I left Bucharest after eighteen months in Rumania, writes a correspondent. Two Gestapo agents followed me to the train to see that I went.

I passed Jilava Prison, in whose cells are imprisoned Rumanian Cabinet Ministers now awaiting trial by men who look on murder as an incident. The Rumanian tragedy is complete.

In his rich mansion in Bucharest an aged cripple rubs his hands with pleasure. Clubfoot Conrad, Nazi criminal who enjoyed German Legation protection, brought off the rape of Rumania.

Moonfaced Minister

His right-hand man is the moonfaced German Minister, Fabricius. What Fabricius could not do in the open, Conrad did secretly. It was to Conrad that the Fuehrer cabled praise.

When police visited Conrad's cellars they found no wine — only stacks of Thompson guns and millions of rounds of ammunition. The little cripple blandly explained he was the Rumanian representative of Krupp's. These were his business samples.

He was right — his business is death.

Police saluted and withdrew. This sinister cripple and the German Minister conquered Rumania between them. It fell like a plum into Hitler's hands at a cost of only 2,000 lives — the lives of Rumanian Legionaries, whose organisation they had bought with Nazi gold.

Gestapo Everywhere

Now the Gestapo are everywhere. One of their first acts was the arrest at Brasov of the former Polish Foreign Minister Colonel Beck.

It is they who organised the torture of British oil workers, they who had hundreds of shots fired at apartments of British Legation officials, and who systematically are driving the few remaining Englishmen from Rumania.

The German troops now in occupation are happily gorging. One officer at the Ambassador Hotel ordered and ate two whole chickens himself on arrival.

Rumanians have not yet been told that 40,000 hungry German children will be quartered on them for the winter.

Germans Hated

Before leaving I dined with a great Rumanian industrialist. "Germany," he said, "is moving heavy industry east, away from British bombers. Germany will steal our greatest firm, Malaxa, and make it a second Skoda working night and day to feed the German war machine."

The mass of the Rumanian people hate the new overlords. But Rumania, in a fantastic atmosphere of hidden death and persecution suffers in silence and shame at the Gestapo occupation.

C.O.s: SECRET INQUIRY

The Court of Inquiry to investigate charges of ill-treatment of conscientious objectors will meet in private.

Sir Edward Grigg, Parliamentary Secretary to the War Office, stated that the Court would be set up. Mr. McGovern, M.P., had asked if he were aware that certain C.O.s had been kicked, beaten with rifle butts and placed on bread and water in solitary confinement.

30s. WIFE — NO GUARANTEE

A wife, at Bromley, Kent, Matrimonial Court asked her husband, "Did you not offer to sell me for 30s. to a man who called at the door?"

The husband, an aircraftman in the R.A.F., replied, "Yes. But I did not tell him you were worth it."

CHINA MAIL
WINDSOR HOUSE

PERHAPS...

One reaction to the film "The Grapes of Wrath" was a feeling that its tremendous challenge had not been met. "Perhaps there is no solution." Could nobody find an adequate answer to this defeatist doubt? Are the economic factors that drive men, women and children into hunger, slavery and despair, entirely beyond human control? It has been complained that not one Christian has had the courage to say that the solution for the tragic problem depicted in the story of the Joad family was found nearly two thousand years ago. It was enshrined in what that "enemy of all religions," Mr. H. G. Wells, has described as "one of the most revolutionary doctrines that ever stirred and changed human thought." It was "no less than a bold and uncompromising demand for a complete change and cleansing of our struggling race, an utter cleansing, without and within." This simple and profound doctrine of the universal loving Fatherhood of God and the coming of the Kingdom of Heaven swept away all tribal patriotism and lesser loyalties; condemned all private wealth and proud possessions; and sought to set up something in men's hearts that would revolutionise the outer world and make it new. So wrote Mr. Wells in his survey of world history.

It would not be presenting a jarring note for this Christmastide, when half the nations of the world are at war or under the conquerors' heel, to suggest that the thought is specially worth pondering to-day. Many Christians will not accept the Wellsian interpretation of the teaching of Jesus. They may even shudder at the suggestion that the ultimate solution for the modern world's ills must be socialism on a Christian basis. They will remember the saying that no State can exist for twenty-four hours if it is run on the principles of the Sermon on the Mount. And the mention of any "ism" creates a dread of drifting into the damnable materialism of atheistic Communism. They feel it will be safer somehow to go on vaguely hoping for the best, and building visionary new worlds with pious platitudes and magnificent phrases.

The problem for the Western world, if it is

Mr. Winston Churchill, asked about British war aims, has said in effect that we must come closer to winning the war before we can sensibly declare what we intend to do with our victory. This is sound sense, and has been accepted as such by the mass of people of Britain. Those who still grumble at the lack of definition in our war aims are for the most part concerned with the effect of such a declaration upon neutral opinion. Yet here, too, first things must come first, and what the wavering neutrals most want to know is that we can and will win the war. The victories of the Royal Air Force in August and September have done more to rally the neutrals to the Allied cause than could possibly have been done by any manifesto of the rights of man, or covenant of the post-war society of nations.

First Things First

We in the British Empire have always been confident of ultimate victory, because we have always been resolved never to give in. To-day our confidence is more firmly rooted than ever. Yet even we cannot foretell enough of the conditions of victory to be able to fix our war aims, whether for ourselves or for Europe or for the world society of nations, with any definiteness. We do not know who will prove to have been our enemies and who our allies. We do not know what will then be the attitude of the American people towards their responsibilities in establishing and defending a new world order. We do not know where Soviet Russia or Japan will stand—whether perhaps a breakdown of German power in Central and Eastern Europe through a defeat at our hands might not give rise to fresh wars of liberation or of aggrandisement or of ideology in that area.

In brief, though the assumption of victory implies that our power will extend over our enemies, we do not know how much further it would extend, and how far, therefore, we could implement what we might to-day promise as our war aims.

Yet it is not impossible to obtain, if we seek it, a first approximation to our war aims, by striking a rough median between our minimum and our maximum aspirations. Our minimum aspirations have already been declared: in the world at large, to secure against assault by a tyrannous barbarism the great realm of freedom, co-extensive with the world's oceans, to which we belong; on the continent of Europe, to restore freedom to our allies—Poland, Czechoslovakia, Norway, Holland, Belgium, France. Our maximum aspirations, on the other hand, are those which we would turn into reality if we and those of like mind with us could have the ordering of the whole world under our influence.

What Kind Of International Order?

The minimum implies two things. First, that our power to apply our own decisions will extend at the moment of victory not only over the oceanic area but also over the whole northern and western fringe of Europe, as far as the

truly Christian to-day, is to translate the teaching of Jesus into terms of modern social systems and economic complexities. The solution lies in the literal acceptance of the ancient commandment: "Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." But, before there is sufficient courage to apply the simple solution, we must wait for the miracle of a universal change of heart. Perhaps it will come.

inward borders of the Allied countries. Secondly, that we intend not only to restore national freedom to those countries—for that by itself would be useless—but

By Britannicus

also to find some means of securing it for the future.

This means, in turn, that we seek some form of international order and common security which will embrace at least the British Commonwealth and the northern

half of Europe. What kind of international order? In order to answer that question, we must take a look at our maximum aspiration, and make our "first approximation" between the most and the least that we can hope for. Undoubtedly, if we had the ordering of the whole world in our hands, we would establish some system which cut at the roots of national sovereignty. Call this system the super-state, federal union, international government, an international police force, or what you will, it must have two essentials

—power in its hands to deter or quell aggression within or without, and direct responsibility from the authority wielding that power to the representatives of the people.

The difference between the most and the least is wide. It may be a gap in time as well as in scale. The solution may lie in so ordering the least that it leads on to the most. But somewhere, on some medial line, between those two limits lie the war aims which we shall in the end not merely adopt but achieve.

Britain's Anti-Aircraft Gunners

Britain's anti-aircraft gunners came right into the news when the German big-scale raids on England began.

They got the opportunity they had been waiting for with inexhaustible patience for nearly a year.

Nearly all the laurels for bringing down German machines were being collected by the Royal Air Force, although many of their successes were unquestionably due to the co-operation of the searchlights.

This went on week after week, month after month, and the public heard very little about the "ack-ack" boys—as they are affectionately known all over Britain—in spite of the fact that they had been keeping the raiding machines well away from vulnerable spots.

Then came the moment for real action.

It didn't take long for them to show what they were made of and that in spite of lack of actual practice at the shooting of real targets in the heavens they quickly gave convincing proof that their aim was good and that they would provide an important link in the defence of the island fortress from air attack.

Thus it was that when the "targets" were available in the shape of German heavy and light bombers the anti-aircraft guns in a comparatively restricted zone found their mark 57 times in six days.

The highest score in one day was 22. Every battery in Britain is out to beat that score as soon as opportunity occurs.

That they can do the job there

is no doubt, for in the opinion of experts there is no department of military science in which development has been so remarkable as in anti-aircraft gunnery.

This is all the more remarkable since, less than three years ago, Britain had only one 3.7 anti-aircraft gun in the whole of the country.

This type of gun forms the backbone of the island's anti-aircraft defences. There is the more powerful 4.5 gun which is also being used in greater numbers, until to-day the whole of Britain can be said to be bristling with anti-aircraft guns, manned by keyed-up crews eager for a chance to come into action.

It is not easy to imagine the terrific range which the best A.A. guns have, but it serves to illustrate the point that some of the guns could fire their shells at the rate of 12 a minute over the top of Mount Everest—with plenty of room to spare!

Bursting of the shell increases the range by about another 300 yards as metal splinters hurl themselves through the air.

The 4.5 guns are emplaced on fixed mountings, while the 3.7 gun which is the more favoured may be on a mobile or fixed mounting.

In its mobility the anti-aircraft battery finds one of its main advantages, for after an intense action it is possible to pack up and remove to another site so, as one authority puts it, "they may live to shoot another day."

The "ack-ack" men are all specially selected for the important job they have in hand. When the necessity for creating a defence force against air attack became a vital and urgent necessity, it was to the Territorial Army that Great Britain turned.

In the year or so before war broke out, they had been getting accustomed to their new duties.

Since that time the number of batteries has been multiplied enormously and new gun crews trained, but attached to nearly every unit there is a seasoned veteran from the ranks of the former territorial—embodied on the outbreak of war—whose experience and advice has done much to give the gunners that high efficiency which it has been proved they possess.

It has claimed that Britain's anti-aircraft defences are the most up-to-date in the world. There are many factors which go to make them so.

There is, for example, the predictor, "the wonder eye," a delicate instrument that not only calculates the position of a raider but passes information electrically to the anti-aircraft batteries.

It is uncanny the way in which it gives height, direction and speed of a raiding aircraft, thus giving the gun all the information it requires.

These are naturally delicate instruments and they need men of the right temperament to operate them. The men have to undergo a series of scientific tests before they are selected for the job. These tests—mainly designed to show whether a man is physically and mentally suited for handling the instruments—were evolved after consultation with a group of psychologists from one of Britain's leading universities.

And now for the first time there is tangible proof of what the A.A. guns can do. There have been numerous occasions when the barrage set up by the guns has been so terrific that German planes attempting to penetrate the defences have been obliged to turn back.

After The War

England, confident of victory though aware of the long and painful road to be traversed to reach it, is already thinking of her post-war problems. She thinks of them as problems of reconstruction, and looking at her damaged cities she naturally plans in terms of building up. Yet, strangely enough, some of the most urgent and difficult problems that will face not only England, but the whole Commonwealth, after victory is won will be problems of pulling down.

We shall not then be faced with a clean slate on which to write our plans of economic and social reform. In the course of the war a great and revolutionary fabric of economic organisation, at home and internationally, has been set up to cope with the problems of the war itself. It cannot be swept away by a stroke of the pen, nor can we revert by a painless process of smooth demobilisation to conditions as they were before September, 1939. Many of our most formidable and most vital problems of reconstruction emerge directly from a study of our war-time fabric. How much of it is to remain, and by what means is the rest to be demolished or rebuilt?

The State And Industry

At home, the outstanding fact is the diversion to State purposes of an immense portion of the economic effort of the country, both capital and labour, which was formerly conducted by private enterprise under the usual motives of consumers' private profits. This diversion has been accompanied by the imposition of far-reaching Government control over capital and labour, and by necessary heavy increase of taxation on all classes of the community, especially those in the middle and upper income reaches.

We ought also to recall—for it is vital in considering how much of all this can remain—that much of the diversion has been rendered possible by an immense effort of saving on the part of all classes under the stimulus of a pressing patriotism which is bound to be diminished in time of peace. Virtually all this saving, moreover, has been canalised into Govern-

ment spending, all private forms of capital expansion being suspended; and this, too, is a process which cannot continue indefinitely.

We are, therefore, faced with the certainty that, in default of a complete reconstruction of our financial and economic system, some part of the fraction of the national income now being used by the State for State purposes will return to channels of private enterprise. This is not a change that can be made suddenly or without danger of serious dislocation. We know this all too well from our memories of boom and slump after the last world war. Moreover, we have to consider with all our minds how much of this State controlled effort is to remain in the hands of the State and to what purpose this residue is to be devoted.

Alongside these purely economic problems are vital social problems of town planning, education, family allowances and many others.

International Trade

In international economic affairs, the outstanding problem which will face us after the moment of victory is that of trade in raw materials and essential foodstuffs. At present, this is dominated by three factors: the shortage of shipping, the disappearance of blockaded markets, and the meeting of our essential war requirements by mass buying. In many cases, in order to preserve the economic life of producing countries, raw produce has been bought only in order to be stored, or even destroyed, where the circumstances of war prevent it from being economically shipped and used. Are we, in international as in internal economic affairs, to preserve a portion of this State controlled organisation when other parts of our economic system revert to private enterprise? It seems very likely that the answer is yes.

In the midst of our dangers and our necessary concentration of winning the war, it is not too early for leading minds in the British Commonwealth to be turning to these problems and seeking a solution that will meet the determination of everyone to build better for the future in the interests of the common man.



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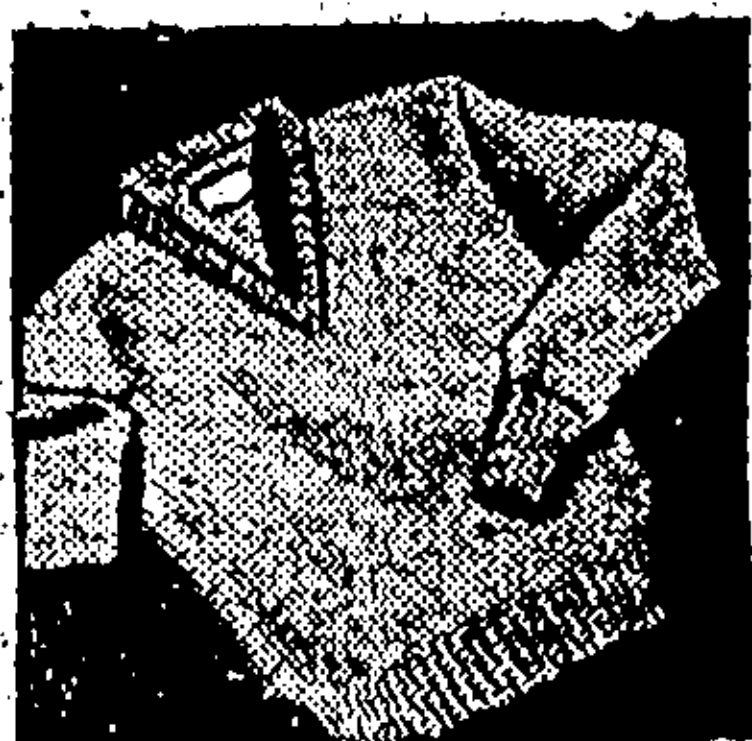
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HID SOLDIER 4 YEARS, IS NOW A REFUGEE

A WOMAN WHOSE native village in France has twice in 25 years been overrun by the Germans, and who helped in the last war to save the life of a British soldier, has arrived as a refugee at a town on the Spanish frontier. She is Mme. Basquin, widow of a woodcutter, who until the German invasion last May lived at Bertry, in the Cambrai district working as a lace weaver.

Twenty-six years ago this month her husband Louis, hewing trees in the forests around Cambrai, came across a young soldier who had become detached from his regiment, the 11th Hussars, following the Battle of Le Cateau in August 1914.

For nearly two months this soldier, Trooper Patrick Fowler, had been in hiding, for the country for miles around was then in German occupation. French farmers had given him food and allowed him to sleep in their barns.

Given Refuge

Basquin took him to the house of his mother-in-law, at Bertry, with whom he and his wife lived.

There the soldier was given refuge in a large wardrobe, which stood in the living-room of their humble dwelling, and there he remained until the end of the war.

For four years Mme. Basquin and her mother hid him at great personal risk.

They shared their meagre rations with him and lied to the German authorities who periodically searched all the houses in the village.

The crisis came when four German soldiers were billeted compulsorily in the house. But although at night they played cards in the room where Fowler lay huddled in the wardrobe, hardly daring to breathe, they never discovered him.

It was Mme. Basquin's ingenuity that threw them off the scent; she cleverly left the door of the wardrobe ajar, concealing Fowler by hanging several coats on the front pegs. Only when the soldiers had gone to bed at night did Fowler come out of his cramped quarters to stretch his legs and eat the food which Mme. Basquin and her mother left for him.

Cupboard Searched

Once the cupboard itself was searched during a swoop by the Germans, who had strong suspicions — which happened to be right — that several fugitive British soldiers were being harboured in the village.

A week previously a British corporal had been caught hiding in a house in a neighbouring street, and shot, and his benefactors had been sentenced to long terms of imprisonment.

Mme. Basquin was, therefore, extra vigilant, and from her window she saw the German search-party approaching. She sent Fowler upstairs to a bedroom. The Germans plunged their bayonets through the feather mattress under which he was concealed, but missed him by inches.

After two years Fowler had a night out. Disguised as a woman, he accompanied Mme. Basquin after dark to the local estaminet, which was patronised by Germans. There, from behind his thick veil, he watched the enemy carousing. He also had some drinks himself.

When, a few months ago, the Meuse defences broke, Bertry was occupied by the Germans for the second time.

Now Refugee

Its shops were again plundered by German troops, and among the many houses destroyed in the onslaught was that in which Mme. Basquin had lived all her life.

She had, however, left the day before, with nothing more than a handbag stuffed with a few clothes.

Fowler, whose home is in Scotland, was until recently working as a gamekeeper, but he is now back in the Army, stationed in a North-Eastern town.

Mme. Basquin and her mother and Fowler had a reunion in London some years ago. They were received by King George V. and Queen Mary and the Duke of Windsor, then Prince of Wales, at Windsor Castle.

The cupboard which for nearly four years was Fowler's home was purchased by Lord Wakefield and presented to the Imperial War Museum.

GALLANTRY AWARDS FOR BOY SCOUTS

Plucky work during a recent night air-raid has earned certificates of gallantry for Scouts John and Alan Cantillon.

An incendiary bomb penetrated the roof of their home. Hearing his mother's shrieks, John, aged fourteen, ran into her room and found that the bomb had set fire to a bed.

Assisted by his twelve-year-old brother Alan, he put sand on the bomb and, although the raider continued to drop bombs, remained to keep the fire in check until help arrived.

"UNDERGROUND" NEWS ROUTE

By underground source, the Committee of Union of the French Socialists in Britain have received a manifesto from the French Socialist Party "somewhere in France."

"The Socialists of France," it is stated, "salute with admiration the resistance of the British people, and feel sure that in this they are at one with almost the whole of the French population."

WORKERS IN GERMANY LIKE SERFS

GERMAN WORKERS ARE REGIMENTED AND HELD AS SERFS BY NAZI FEUDALISM, SAYS DR. LUDWIG HAMBURGER, FORMERLY PROFESSOR OF LABOUR LEGISLATION AT GENEVA, AND NOW ON A VISIT TO U.S.A.

In a survey entitled "How Nazi Germany mobilised and controlled labour," he reveals modern German workers as the industrial equivalent of the medieval bondman.

"The position of the German worker out-feudalises the Middle Ages," he says. "The German employer, since roughly the end of 1938, has had the right to require a worker to return to a place he has quitted." — Reuter.



Would you clean your teeth with PUMICE?

You wouldn't dream of cleaning your teeth with pumice stone, because you know its gritty particles would soon destroy the fine enamel. Yet you may even now be using a harsh tooth-cleaner which is just as destructive.

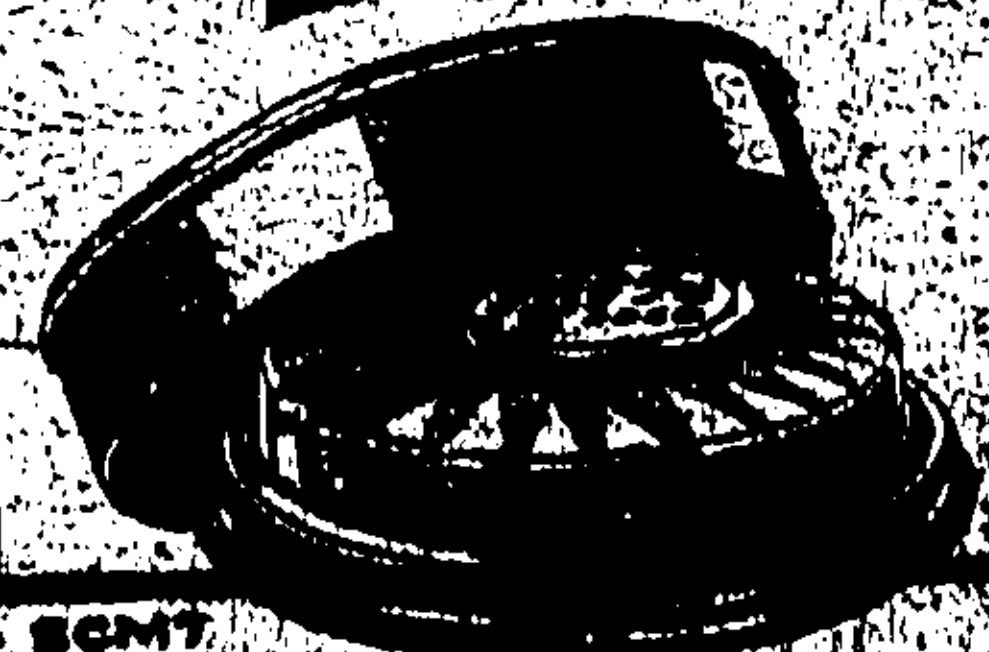
HARSH TOOTH-CLEANERS HAVE THE SAME EFFECT AS PUMICE

they scratch the teeth, roughen them till there is no shine left. Don't let this happen to you! Keep your teeth bright and shining with Gibbs.

Dentifrice. Its special polishing ingredient, which cannot possibly scratch, will bring a new brilliance to your teeth after only two or three days' use. And its penetrating foam ensures that they are kept healthy and absolutely clean, as well as making your whole mouth feel fresh. Gibbs is the most thorough dentifrice, but it is also the most gentle.

Give your teeth a SHINE

with **Gibbs** dentifrice



GREATEST TRAGEDY OF LONDON RAIDS

By HILDE MARCHANT

THE GREATEST BOMBING TRAGEDY IN THE WHOLE OF LONDON HAPPENED ON SUNDAY NIGHT. A BOMB OF TREMENDOUS SIZE HIT A BLOCK OF FLATS, TRAPPING MANY PEOPLE IN THE BASEMENT SHELTER, BURYING THEM UNDER THEIR OWN HOMES.

I looked in this gaping hole in a London street, and thought that, under this heap of rubbish and stone, innocent lives had ended.

Above, a huge automatic excavator was drawing away the wreckage of homes that buried people under the tombstone of their own lives—chairs and pans and blankets, things they had used a few hours before, mixed among the tumbled masonry.

The wardens, stretcher bearers, rescue parties had worked through the night. Every half-hour or so they heard a murmur below, and sometimes they dragged a breath of life from it.

I saw one man being lowered into an ambulance with his leg twisted.

And I was told of a couple who stood weeping on the pavement for their only son—and then suddenly in the darkness a child was put in their arms crying, "Mummy, Daddy."

A doctor crawled through the debris in the early hours of the morning and gave morphia to a woman half-buried. Nurses stood by him and helped the rescue-workers as other people were brought out.

They tended wounds there on the spot, bathing and dressing the injured, though guns were going on around.

The Odd Chance

A child was found wandering over the debris, choked with dirt and falling, not knowing where she was.

A woman came out, dazed, and with her face slashed; she stayed for hours guiding the men working on the debris.

It was a good shelter, reinforced and deep. But with that odd chance of a hundred, the bomb smashed and closed the exits. The water and gas pipes broke.

When the rescue parties arrived they tried to clear the entrances, but as they made a tunnel, masonry collapsed and filled it. They went on digging.

The organisation round this ruin was magnificent. Everything that could help was at hand. The workmen and wardens—the soldiers of London—went on as bombs slapped around them. They worked all through the night raid.

When I arrived, I saw a picture that will stay in my mind all my life. There was a group of men in blue dungarees, standing over a deep hole, tapping the bricks.

They waited in silence. Then some answer came, so they dug again.

They rescued fifty-seven people.

I wondered what sound you would send to show where you were, when your life hung on it. The answer that came was: "We're still breathing."

It was like those hideous nights at a pithead when a murmur from the depths revives the crowd around. The ambulance drev in as the men lifted another living soul from the debris. It was a woman.

Debris On Shelter

A man in the rescue squad wiped plaster out of his eye and took a breath, and said: "I'd like to ring his ruddy neck, only it's too quick a death for him. He'll get worse."

No need to say who the "he" is.

A girl in a Salvation Army canteen made tea for the workers, day and night. She stood in her van on the edge of the pit, as the stretchers passed by, making tea and serving currant buns.

I talked to a shelter marshal

who had been in the adjoining shelter. His people behaved very well. Heavy debris fell on their shelter, but they marched out and went right away, so the rescue workers could have a clear field.

The people who escaped from the flats were greatly shaken, yet one man I met put his wife in another shelter and went off to his job in the afternoon.

"What am I to do?" he said. "I can't help here, and I can help in my job."

I cannot forget what I saw—those men whispering into the ruins. I felt that a new Cenotaph had gone up over the ruins. We shall not forget.

FASCIST FEARS DE GAULLE

Many French Civil Servants, teachers and students are taking part in propaganda in favour of General de Gaulle, according to the former French Communist leader Doriot, who in 1936 joined the Fascists.

He now attacks his former comrades in the "Emancipation Nationale" and expresses fear at their propaganda.

"The Communists and others who during the war favoured pacifism and defeatism suddenly pretend to patriotism and are now wishing to continue the war on the side of De Gaulle," he writes.

"These disguised patriots, in reality Communists, are inventors of the lie that the bourgeoisie wished and caused the defeat of France to establish a Fascist regime."

"Their propaganda is daily increasing and is a national danger as their whispering campaign is to be heard everywhere, finding more believers."

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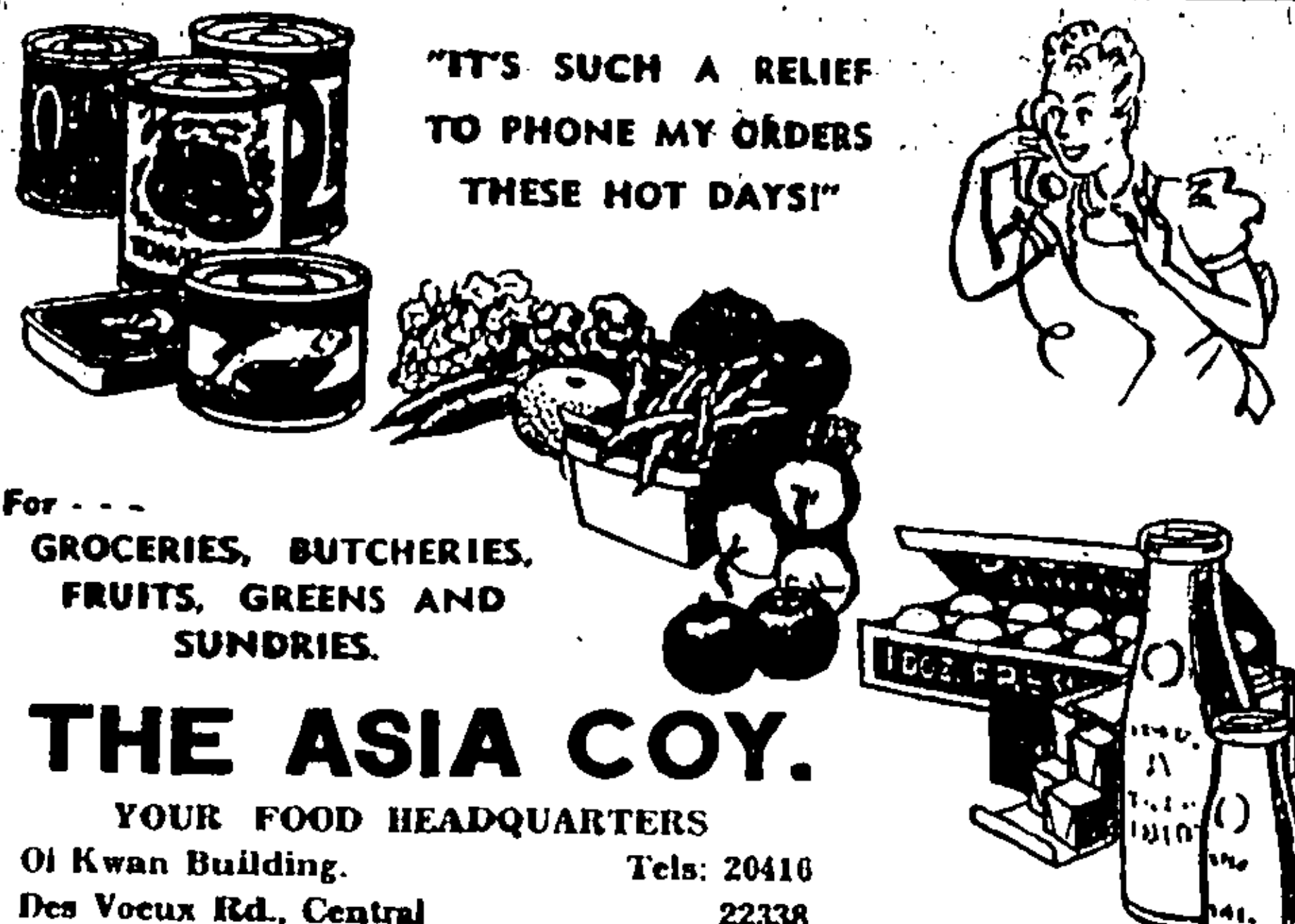
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CALENDAR

CHRISTMAS EVE

—TUESDAY—

DECEMBER 24th, 1940.

CHRISTMAS DAY

—WEDNESDAY—

DECEMBER 25th, 1940.

BOXING DAY

—THURSDAY—

DECEMBER 26th, 1940.

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BOXING NIGHT ("Gripps" Dinner Dance)

TILL 2 A.M.

WITH NICK KORIN & HIS SWING BAND

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PUBLIC AUCTION

The Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction on

TUESDAY, 24th, December, 1940

commencing at 12.45 p.m. at their Sales Room, No. 2, Connaught Road, Central, Room No. 205, Second Floor

A Shipment of Lionel Electric Trains and Accessories

Terms: Cash on Delivery

LAMMERT BROS., Auctioneers.

Hong Kong, 23rd Dec., 1940.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

BANK HOLIDAYS

In accordance with Government Ordinance, the Exchange Banks will be Closed for the Transaction of Public Business on Wednesday, and Thursday, the 25th and 26th December, 1940, (Christmas Holidays).

Hong Kong, 23rd Dec., 1940.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Kindly note that as from 30th DECEMBER, 1940, our New Office Address will be:—

THE MANUFACTURERS LIFE INSURANCE CO.,

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2nd Floor,

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BRIDGE NOTES

By The Four Aces CRIME DOESN'T PAY! NO. 23

We saw this crime committed, and promptly wrote it down for our sleuths. We'll save you some time by admitting that the crime was in the bidding; but it's up to you to determine just where the straight and narrow path was deserted.

South, Dealer
Neither side vulnerable

South: A 9 2
K 6 5
Q 10 9 8 5
K 9 5 4

North: K 6
J 10 3
K 7 4
K J 7 6

South: A 8 7 3
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K J 7 6

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North: K 6
J 10 3
K 7 4
K J 7 6

The bidding:
Jacob: 1♣ 1♥
Schenken: Pass
You: 1♠
Maler: Pass

ANSWER: Bid three hearts. Game should be easily made even if your partner has only a minimum opening bid; and if he has more, your bid allows him to suggest a slam without much risk. Score 100% for three hearts; 50% for four hearts; 20% for two no-trump.

Question No. 597

To-day you are Howard Schenken's partner and, with neither side vulnerable, you hold:

♠ K 7
♥ J 5 3 2
♦ A J 8 5
♣ 5 4 3

The bidding:
Schenken: 1♣ 1♥ 1♠
Maler: Pass
You: 1♠
Jacob: Pass

What do you bid? (Answer Thursday.)
(Released by The Bell Syndicate, Inc.)



The person who says he is going to give you a little advice generally weighs you down with more than you can take.

REACH THOSE WHO CAN AFFORD TO BUY THROUGH

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THE PAPER THAT GETS INTO THE HOME
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By ED REED



"—And if any of that stuff is contraband don't come by way of Europe."

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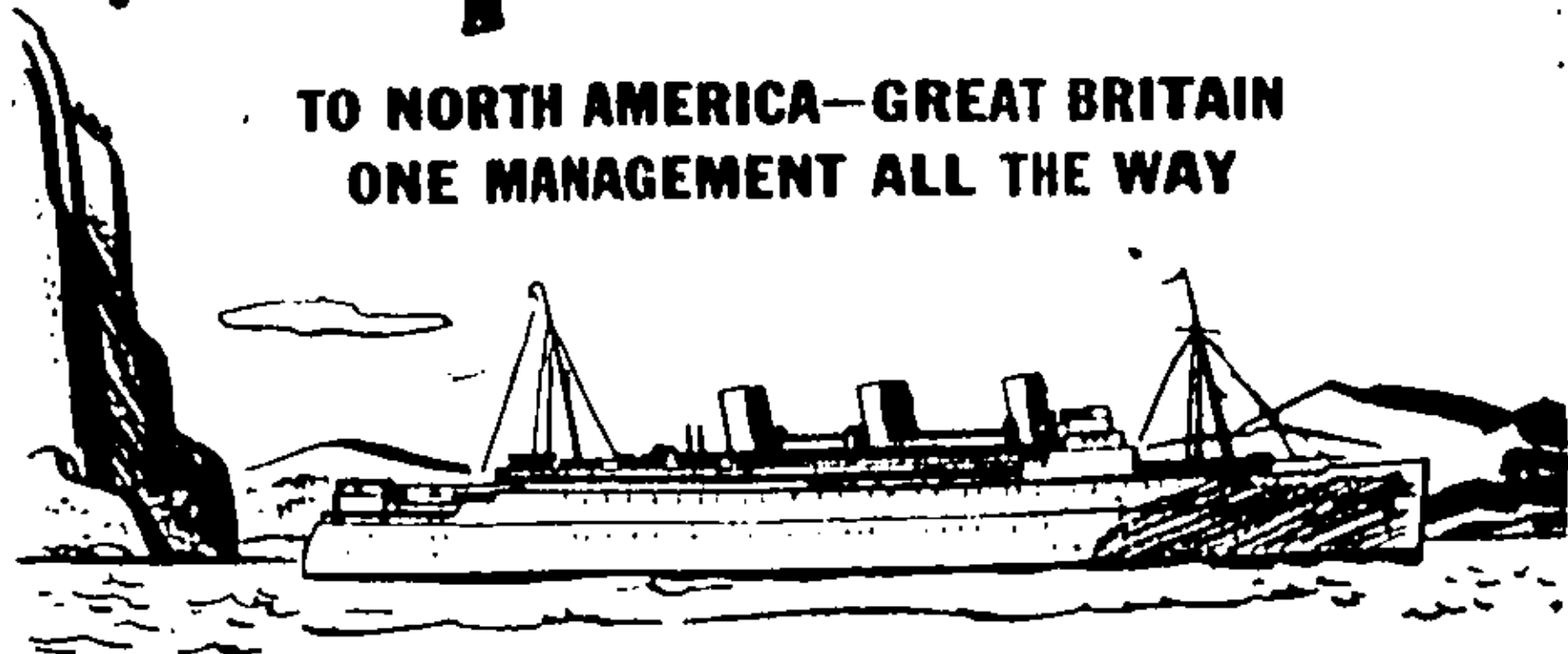
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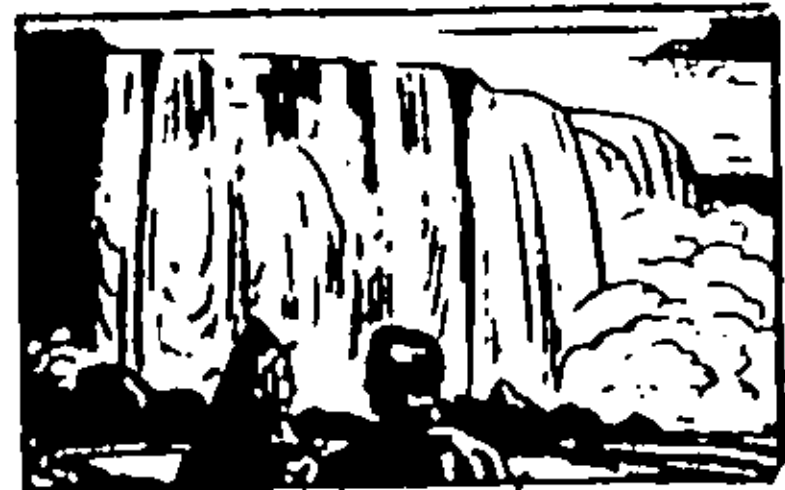
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Sirogane Maru 30th Dec.

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S.S. PRESIDENT TYLER January 9
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TO MANILA
S.S. PRESIDENT PIERCE December 28
S.S. PRESIDENT TAFT January 10
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MAILS

The Parcel Post Service to Canton has been resumed.

Small Packet Post to all countries is suspended.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

On Wednesday, 25th December, and Thursday, 26th December, the General Post Office and Branch Post Offices will be open as follows:—

Wednesday, 25th Thursday, 26th
General Post Office
8 a.m. to 10 a.m. 8 a.m. to noon
Kowloon Central P.O.
8 a.m. to 10 a.m. 8 a.m. to noon
Sheungwan Branch P.O.
8 a.m. to 9 a.m. 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.

All other Branch Post Offices and Money Order Office will be entirely closed during the Holidays.

There will be one collection from the pillar boxes each day as on Sundays and one delivery of registered and ordinary correspondence at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, 25th and at 11.30 a.m. on Thursday, the 26th.

There will also be one delivery of ordinary correspondence each day at 11.00 a.m. from the Branch Post Office at Stanley, Taipei and Un Long.

INWARD MAILS

TUESDAY

Air Mail by "British Overseas Airways Service" by sea from Singapore, London and Straits

WEDNESDAY

Canton
London and Straits

THURSDAY

U.S.A., Honolulu, Japan and Shanghai (San Francisco date, 6th December).
U.S.A., Honolulu and Manila (San Francisco date, 3rd December).

FRIDAY

Air Mail by "Pan-American Airways Direct Service"—San Francisco date, 17th December.
Java and Manila.

SATURDAY

Swatow

FOR DATE & TIME

OUTWARD MAILS

TUESDAY

Straits, Ceylon, India, East and South Africa 3.30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Manila, Batavia and Surabaya 8.30 a.m.
Canton Noon.

THURSDAY

Air Mail by sea to Singapore to connect with the "British Overseas Airways." K.P.O. & G.P.O.

Reg. 11.30 a.m.
Ord. Noon.
Ceylon, India, Aden and Egypt. Noon.
Straits Noon.

FRIDAY

Sandakan 8.30 a.m.
Straits, Rangoon and Calcutta.
Par. (26) Noon.
Let. (27) 9.30 a.m.

Air Mail by Air to Rangoon to connect with the "British Overseas Airways." K.P.O. & G.P.O.

Reg. 4.00 p.m.
Ord. 4.30 p.m.
Shanghai, Japan, Honolulu, U.S.A., Canada, Central and South America and "United Kingdom via San Francisco

K.P.O.

Parcels 4.00 p.m.
Reg. 5.00 p.m.
Ord. 5.30 p.m.

G.P.O.

Parcels 4.00 p.m.
Reg. 5.00 p.m.
Ord. 7.00 p.m.

Air Mail for Manila, Guam, Honolulu, U.S.A. and Europe via "Pan-American Airways and Trans-Atlantic Service (No parcels for Canada and United Kingdom).

K.P.O.

Reg. 5.00 p.m.
Ord. 5.30 p.m.

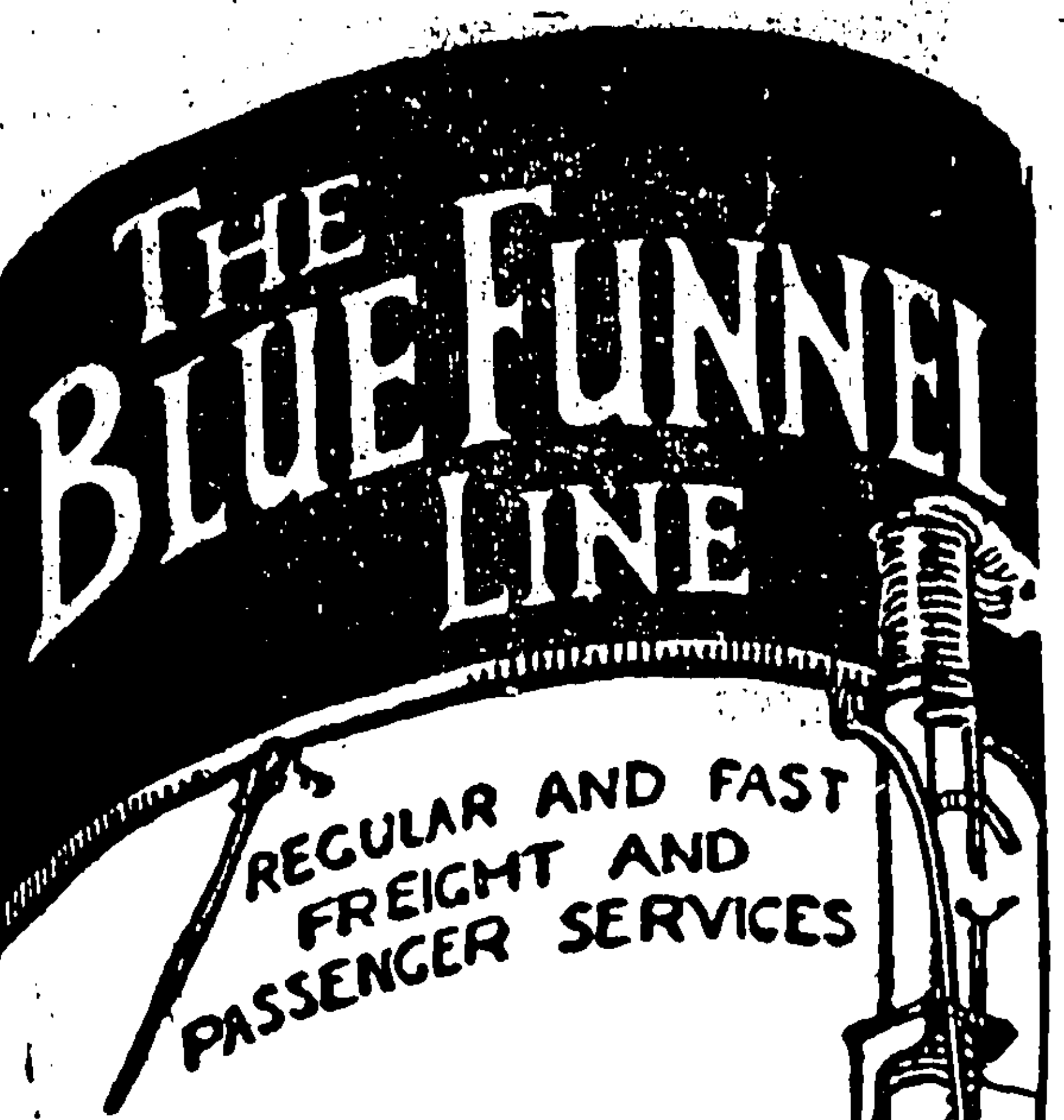
G.P.O.

Reg. 5.00 p.m.
Ord. 7.00 p.m.

• Superscribed Correspondence Only.

RADIO

12.30 p.m.—Mantovani and His Orchestra in Dance Music.
1.03 p.m.—London Palladium Orchestra and Miliza Korjus (Soprano).
1.30 p.m.—Reuter and Rugby Press, Weather Forecast and Announcements.
1.45 p.m.—Variety.
2.30 p.m.—Dance Music.
7.00 p.m.—London Relay—The News.
7.15 p.m.—London Relay—Questions of the Day.
7.30 p.m.—Variety.
8.03 p.m.—Vocal Programme.
8.30 p.m.—Orchestral Selections.
9.00 p.m.—London Relay—The News and News Commentary.
9.30 p.m.—London Relay—Talk 'Scots Abroad'.
9.45 p.m.—Coralli—Concerto Grosso in G Minor ("Christmas Cello").
10.00 p.m.—Studio—An Abridged Version of Diogenes' "Christmas Carol".
10.30 p.m.—Bacharach—A Noel Fantasy from "A Carol Symphony".
10.40 p.m.—Royal Command Performance.



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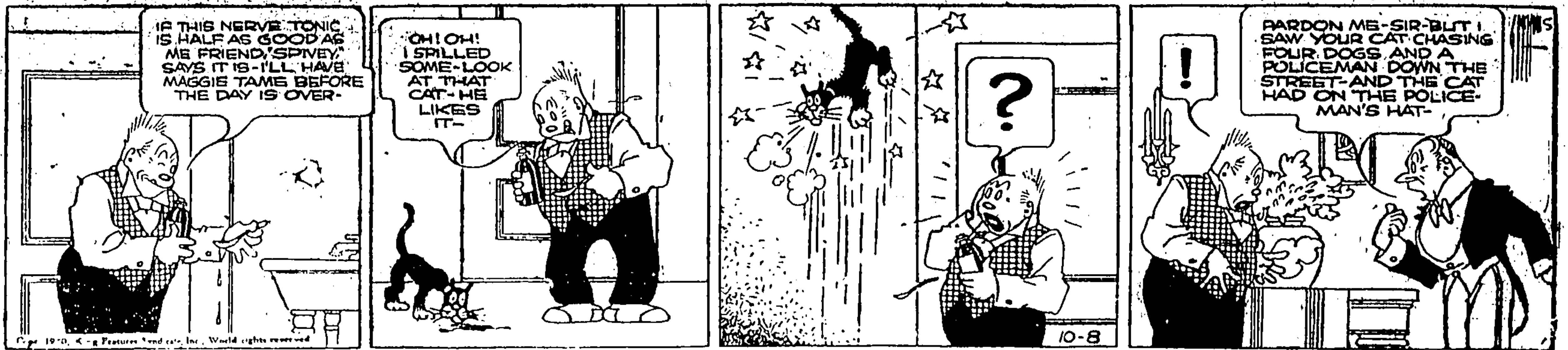
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COMPLETE WINE SUIT

9 Types 108 Glasses For 66⁵⁰

OR BY THE DOZEN			
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WEEK-END FOOTBALL FIXTURES

Following is this week-end's Football programme:

Saturday

FIRST DIVISION

Kowloon	v	South China
(Kowloon, 4.00 p.m.)		
Club	v	St. Joseph's
(St. Joseph's, 4.00 p.m.)		
R. Scots	v	Eastern
(Sookunpoo, 4.00 p.m.)		
Middlesex	v	Navy
(Boundary Street, 4.00 p.m.)		
SECOND DIVISION		
30th R.A.	v	Service Corps
(Stanley, 4.00 p.m.)		
Kowloon	v	South China
(Kowloon, 2.30 p.m.)		
Club	v	Engineers
(St. Joseph's, 2.30 p.m.)		
Middlesex	v	Navy
(Military, 2.30 p.m.)		
R. Scots	v	Ordnance
(Sookunpoo, 2.30 p.m.)		
THIRD DIVISION		
30th R.A.	v	Engineers
(Military, 4.00 p.m.)		
Shell	v	24th R.A.
(Chatham Road, 2.30 p.m.)		
20th R.A.	v	35th R.A.
(Chatham Road, 4.00 p.m.)		

Sunday

FIRST DIVISION

Sing Tao	v	Kwong Wah
(Club, 4.00 p.m.)		
SECOND DIVISION		
Sing Tao	v	Kwong Wah
(Club, 2.30 p.m.)		
Police	v	Kit Chee
(Boundary Street, 4.00 p.m.)		
THIRD DIVISION		
12th R.A.	v	A.S.A.
(Sookunpoo, 2.30 p.m.)		
R.A.M.C.	v	7th R.A.
(Sookunpoo, 4.00 p.m.)		
Air Force	v	Service Corps
(Boundary Street, 2.30 p.m.)		
International	v	Signals
(Caroline Hill, 2.30 p.m.)		

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Harvey Promoted Sets R.A.F. Poser Now Ranks As Pilot-Officer Mills Throws Out A Challenge

THE ROYAL AIR FORCE has probably more famous sporting personalities in their ranks than any of the other services.

They can put football, cricket and rugby teams of international strength into the field and they have a good sprinkling of leading boxers.

The latest to join the ranks is Ernie Roderick, the Liverpool holder of the British welterweight championship, who has passed his medical and is awaiting his call-up. Other members of the cauliflower-ear industry now in the R.A.F. are heavyweight champion Len Harvey, now promoted to Pilot Officer; Eric Boon, lightweight champion; Peter Kane, former bantamweight champion; the three London stars, Kid Berg, Dave Crowley and Jackie Rankin, and Corporal Freddie Mills, the Bournemouth light-heavyweight, who recently

beat the reigning middleweight champion, Jack McAvo.

Awkward Situation

Len Harvey's promotion means that there is the prospect of a N.C.O. fighting a senior officer in public for money. Mills considers himself good enough for a shot at the British cruiserweight title and he has issued a challenge.

This sets a poser for the military powers that be. Normally officers do not trade punches with other ranks, it being the practice to divide the classes into separate amateur competitions. But the situation is a little different in this case. Both Harvey and Mills are professionals; fighting is their living.—Reuter.

SUNDAY'S CRICKET CANCELLED

Owing to the fact that a softball game has been arranged for Sunday afternoon, the whole-day cricket match between H.K.V.D.C. has been cancelled.

BASEBALL FIELDING RECORD

Frankie Pytlak, star catcher whom the Cleveland Indians traded to the Boston Red Sox recently, has established a new Major League record for consecutive chances without an error, official American League fielding records released showed.

Pytlak handled 571 chances without errors between September 10, 1938, and September 18, 1940, compared to the former record of 452 chances without an error made by Leo "Gaby" Hartnett, Chicago Cubs long-time ace who moves to the New York Polo Grounds next year as a coach under Manager William "Bill" Terry.

Fielding picked up generally in the American League last season, the field average rising one point. Double plays increased by twelve to 1,195 and there were 22 fewer errors, with a total of 1,443. The New York Yankees and the Indians tied for fielding honours each attaining an average of .975.—United Press.

HOLIDAY SOCCER PROGRAMME

Following is the draw and teams for the Semi-final of the "Sunday Herald" International Charity Cup Competition:

TO-MORROW
Scotland v China (holders)
(Boundary Street, 3.30 p.m.)

BOXING DAY
Portugal v England

(Kowloon, 3.30 p.m.)
CHINA—Cheung Wing-choy (Sing Tao); Tsang Chung-wan (South China) and Lee Tin-sang (Sing Tao); Soong Ling-sing (Sing Tao); Hsu King-sing (Eastern) and Ng Kee-cheong (Eastern); Chung Yung-sum (Eastern); Fung King-cheong (Sing Tao); Lee Wal-tong (South China) (Capt.); Lal Shiu-wing (Sing Tao) and Hau Ching-to (Eastern).
Reserves—Lau Hin-hon (Eastern); Hau Yung-sang (Sing Tao); Tse Kam-hung (South China); Kwok Ying-kee (Sing Tao); Hui Man-fai (Eastern); Chan Tak-fat (South China); Cheuk Shek-kam (Kwong Wah); Lee Shek-yau (South China) and Wong King-cheong (Kwong Wah).

SCOTLAND—Bankier (Royal Scots); Blackburn (Police) and Fraser (Royal Scots); Hutchinson (Kowloon); Falconer (Royal Scots) and Clarke (Royal Scots); Garrie (Royal Scots); Ferrier (Police); Hossack (Royal Scots); Howlett (Police) and Gilroy (Royal Scots).
Reserves—Scott (Club); Gow (Club); Lamb (Kowloon); Naysmith (Royal Scots); Marshall (Royal Scots) and Munro (Royal Scots).

ENGLAND—Robinson (Navy); Roughley (Navy) and Freshwater (Middlesex); Pope (Police); Bright (Middlesex) (Capt.); and Wilkinson (Middlesex); Cooper (Middlesex); Le Page (Navy); Handy (Navy); Fox (Engineers) and Lockhart (Club).

PORTUGAL (to be chosen from the following)—U. B. Souza (International); D. Demee (St. Joseph's); A. V. Gosano (Kwong Wah); B. T. Gosano (Kwong Wah); C. A. Hamedios (Kwong Wah); J. Rapito (Kowloon); D. D'Aquino (International); V. Magalhães (International); R. Rocha (International); G. Campos (International); G. Gosano (International); R. Maxwell (Kowloon); C. Sallua (St. Joseph's); J. Gomes (St. Joseph's); D. Alves (St. Joseph's); A. Alves (St. Joseph's) and O. Fernandes (St. Joseph's).

ARMY SPORTLIGHT

By "SQUADRY"

TO-DAY at Sookunpoo the Middlesex Regiment will play the Combined Small Units in the Area Hockey League for Large Units, bully off 4.30 p.m.

The undermentioned will represent Middlesex:—L/C Winfield; Pte. Stickley and L/C Pain-ting; P.S.M. Ure, Sgt. Crowley and L/Sgt. Waldron; L/C Moggeridge, Bds. Hymas, L/C Bright, Pte. Sheehan and Pte. Jackson.

Reserves:—Dr. Kintworth and Pte. Caul.

Engineers lost by three goals to one to Recreation in the Hong Kong Hockey League tournament at Sookunpoo on Sunday morning after sharing two goals at the interval, Shaw scoring the Sappers only goal.

In a friendly game at King's Park on Saturday, Royal Corps of Signals lost to Y.M.C.A. by two clear goals. Signals' outstanding players were Price at inside-right, who was prominent both with his individual play and his combination with Spare and Cpl. Blount also did well in the forward-line.

Cpl. Gorman, playing in the pivotal position, was more prominent in the second half; in the first he could not settle down and was wandering too much.

The following are results to date in the Large Units Hockey League:—

FIRST ROUND			
8th Hvy. Regt.	2	12th Hvy. Regt.	2
Punjab Regt.	1	5th A.A. Regt.	1
Middlesex	4	Engineers	1
Combined S.U.	1	Royal Scots	1
SECOND ROUND			
5th A.A. Regt.	1	8th Hvy. Regt.	0
12th Hvy. Regt.	1	Combined S.U.	1
H.K.R.S.A.	2	Punjab Regt.	2
Rajput Regt.	4	Engineers	1
Middlesex	5	Royal Scots	0

LEAGUE TABLE					
	P	W	L	D	Pts
Middlesex Regt.	2	2	0	0	4
5th A.A. Regt.	2	1	0	1	3
Rajput Regt.	1	1	0	0	2
12th Hvy. Regt.	2	0	0	2	2
Punjab Regt.	2	0	0	2	2
Combined Small Units	2	0	0	2	2
H.K.S.R.A.	1	0	0	1	1
8th Hvy. Regt.	2	0	1	1	1
Royal Scots	2	0	1	1	1
Engineers	2	0	2	0	0

IT is good to see that three Service players from junior football have been selected to represent the Football Association on New Year's day at Sookunpoo against the Chinese. Two senior players have also been picked.

The following are the Army players selected:—Sgt. Freshwater (Midd'x), Pte. Sheehan (Midd'x), Sgt. Fox (R.E.), and Sgt. Owens (24th R.A.).

Sgt. Owens, who will be playing on the right-wing, gave an excellent performance on Sunday in the Charity matches. He played in both games, owing to the players for the second match not all turning up. He is very speedy on the wing and centres the ball well. He played a great game with Fox, the centre-forward.

THE Middlesex Regiment held their Novices Inter-Company Boxing tournament last week, and the finals were held on Friday with "A" Company winning easily, having five men in the finals, and winning the following weights:—Lightweight; Middleweight; Light-Heavyweight; and Welterweight. They also had the runner-up in the Heavyweight.

Lieut. R. W. H. Willoughby, Heavyweight, put up a plucky performance against Pte. Cheny. He was K.O'd in the second round, after being saved by the gong in the first round. He had fought a hard fight the night previous.

Best fight of the evening was between Pte. Byford, "A" Coy., and Pte. Coleman, "H.Q." Coy. Byford won after a very hard fight, and both boxers were congratulated at the end of the fight on a very good performance.

In the final of the Lightweight Pte. Cooper of "A" Coy. knocked out Pte. Roberts of "C" Coy. The Middleweight final was won by Pte. Burdge, "A" Coy., who beat Pte. Hogan, "C" Coy.

Pte. Gratton, "A" Coy., beat Pte. Lanigan, "B" Coy. These two were evenly matched and there was not much between them.

The Featherweight final was a good fight between Pte. Macey, "C" Coy., and Pte. Hills, "D" Coy., with Macey having a slight advantage in points.

In the Bantamweight final Pte. Winter and Pte. Anderson were evenly matched, and there was not much to choose between them, Anderson winning on points.

A good fight was witnessed in a special contest, Welterweight, between L/C McGready of the

Royal Scots and Pte. Eaton of the Middlesex Regt. L/C McGready was the winner on points.

Pte. Noble of "D" Coy. Middlesex beat L/C Smith, "A" Coy. Middlesex in a special contest in the Lightweight series. Noble is very quick, has good footwork and should do well in the Army Opens.

In the Garrison Billiards Tournaments Pte. Whybro of the R.A.M.C. has the highest breaks in both the billiards and snooker competitions, with 53 for Billiards and 32 for Snooker.

Cpl. Harvey of the Medical Corps completely outplayed Pte. Gordon of the Royal Scots, last year's winner of the Individual Billiards Championship, last week by 250 points to 171.

The undermentioned are the remaining players left in the Individual Billiards Championship:—Cpl. Harvey (R.A.M.C.), B.S.M. Rawlings (R.A.), Q.M.S. Wood (R.A.S.C.) and Pte. Whybro (R.A.M.C.).

In the Snooker Individual Championship the following are still interested:—Lieut. M. V. Dixon (R.A.M.C.), Q.M.S. Wood (R.A.S.C.), Cpl. Harvey (R.A.M.C.) and Pte. Milne (Royal Scots).

Cpl. Harvey is the strongest favourite for both competitions and I think that he will pull off the double.

In the League Royal Army Medical Corps have played 14 games and won all.

ANOTHER DEFEAT FOR CHINESE 'Y'

Chinese Y.M.C.A., who last year played off with University for the championship, lost what little chance they had of challenging University "A" again this year when they went down badly to University "B" in "A" Division of the Badminton League last night, by 7-2.

T. T. Chin and F. L. Yung were in great form for the undergraduates to win all three games, and the other two pairs each dropped only one game.

Patrick Wong, three-fold Colony champion, was outclassed and only managed to win one game for Chinese Y.M.C.A.

C. K. Cheuk and K. B. Liu (Univ. "B").

lost to P. H. Wong and T. W. Wong

beat C. Au and H. Ko

beat F. KO and C. Y. Yung

S. Amblavanar and A. P. Lee

(Univ. "B").

beat Wong and Wong

lost to Au and Ko

beat Ko and Yung

T. T. Chin and F. L. Yung

(Univ. "B").

beat Wong and Wong

beat Au and Ko

beat Ko and Yung

C.C.C. BOXING DAY MATCH

The following are the teams for the Married v. Single cricket match at Craigengower Cricket Club on Boxing Day at 11.00 a.m.:—

Married:—E. Zimmer (Capt.); W. K. Way, T. Lock, J. L. Young, Saye, T. Waller, U. H. Esmail, A. B. Hamson, A. K. Ismail, B. E. France, J. W. Leonard, C. W. Lam, G. H. A. Morris, G. Tanner and W. Hong Sling.

Single:—G. Souza (Capt.); A. M. Omar, A. J. Hulse, R. R. R. P. J. Blumfield, T. H. Edgar, J. Lodge, S. Leonard, E. H. Esmail, G. Ladd, S. R. Solina, A. Hung, N. Broadbridge and L. Choa. There will be a tea dance immediately after the match.

B. Agafuroff, who bought Grand Allegiance, the 1940 Australian pony at the roup held in the Jockey Club Paddock on Thursday, intends sending it to Fanning for a prolonged rest.



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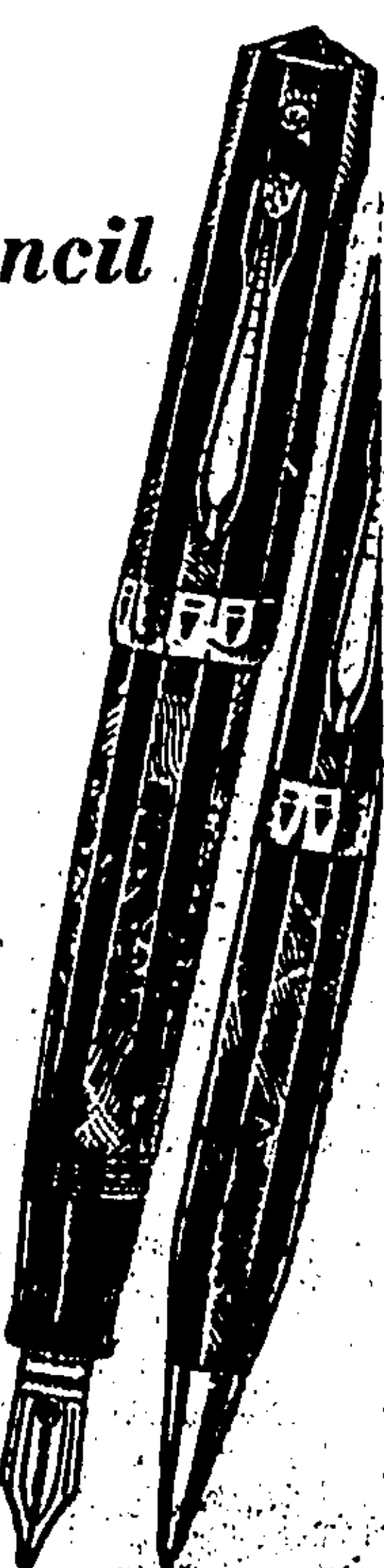
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BRITISH SPORTSMEN KILLED IN SERVICES

RUGBY PLAYERS once again figure prominently in the latest lists of war casualties, as many as five prominent players having been killed.

The game has lost a brilliant young centre three-quarter in Lieut. John Harrison, of the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, whose death from wounds has been reported. Harrison was with the late Prince Obolensky, the England and Oxford wing three-quarter, in the Trent College team, which in 1933-34, scored 539 points against 22.

After leaving school Harrison captained Sandhurst and played for Surrey before joining the Army. His Services Rugby attracted the England selectors, and he was chosen as reserve centre for England. He also played for Rosslyn Park.

Another former captain of the Rugby XV at Sandhurst, 2nd-Lieut. M. G. Johnson, M.C., has recently been reported killed by enemy action. He captained Sandhurst three years ago.

Acting Squadron-Leader Michael Fitzwilliam Peacock, the Oxford Rugby Blue and former Richmond captain, who was reported missing is now believed to have been killed in action in the Arras-Cambrai sector in May. He was awarded the D.F.C. in February.

Accidental Death

Lieut.-Cpl. H. Greenwood, whose death at Wantage Cottage Hospital, Berkshire, following an accident, is announced, was a member of the Leicestershire and East Midlands XV which defeated the South Africans at Leicester in the 1931-32 season. He played in an England trial while assisting Leicester and also played for Bedford, his native town. He volunteered for the R.A.S.C. at the outbreak of the war.

Another well-known player to Rugby followers to die as the result of an accident is B. H. Cattell, who was knocked down by a motor car and killed near Coventry, when on duty as a special constable. In his younger days he was on the verge of international honours as a forward of the robust type, and once chosen as reserve for England. For years he played for Moseley, then at the height of their power, and for the Midland Counties.

He was a brother of R. H. Cattell, the Oxford and England scrum half-back, and until three years ago practised as an auctioneer at Rugby.

Other Sportsmen

Other sportsmen who have been reported killed recently are:

Lieut. Peter Eekersley, R.N.V.R. (Air Division), the Lancashire cricketer, who has been killed in action. Six years he led the Lancashire Eleven, one season to the County Championship. He toured with the M.C.C. in India in 1926, and with Lionel Tennyson's side in the West Indies two years later. In 1936 he was elected to the M.C.C. Committee, following his decision the previous season to give up active cricket.

Lieut. M. D. P. Magill (Royal Berkshire Regiment), reported killed in action, was regarded as one of the finest Oxford cricketers ever to get a blue. He went to the university after two years at Eton, and played two matches for the Dark Blues. While at Eton he captained the Rugby XV.

Eton Captains Killed

It is announced by the college authorities that two other former captains of sport at Eton have been killed on active service.

They are J.F.B. Bougley, captain of cricket in 1938, a second lieutenant in the Coldstream Guards, and B. M. Fisher, captain of cricket in 1935, Pilot-Officer in the R.A.F.V.R.

Pilot-Officer G. T. N. Mitchell, recently reported killed in action, secured his hockey blue for Cambridge. He was also a Scottish international.

Six Service footballers on the League club lists when war began have lost their lives. They are:

Tom Cooper (Liverpool and England right back); Robert Gordon (Huddersfield Town right half-back); Joe Carr (Sheffield United back); Frank Carpenter (Manchester United inside-left); Stanley Docking (Tranmere Rovers inside-left); and Greenville Roberts (Nottingham Forest inside-right). Ernest Bell (Aldershot inside-forward) is reported missing in France.

W. T. Whewell, who was formerly captain of England

amateur soccer team and a well-known Corinthian footballer, was killed with his wife when their house received a direct hit during a recent air raid over the South of England.

He played for England at centre-half against Scotland, Ireland and Wales. He also played for English teams in Germany, Holland and Switzerland. He was a Cambridge football blue and also played for Cambridge in minor counties cricket.

Prisoners Of War

A number of sportsmen who had been reported missing are now officially reported to be prisoners of war. The best known are: Maj. William Eldon Tucker, R.A.M.C., the English rugby international and Cambridge blue.

Capt. J. W. G. Hume, Lothians and Border Yeomanry, the Scottish rugby international and Oxford blue.

Lieut. J. W. S. Irwin, R.A.M.C. the Irish International rugby forward.

Cpl. W. R. C. Brydon, Scottish international rugby player.

NO SOCCER INTERPORT

Word has been received that Shanghai Football Association are definitely unable to send a team to Hong Kong for the Interport game during Chinese New Year.

Several causes contributed to their decision, among these being, the difficulty of their players, most of whom are Volunteers, obtaining leave; the uncertainty of sailing dates between the two ports and their probable inability to raise a representative side, in view of the departure of the British troops.

Lieut.-Col. Guy J. German, who obtained his rugby blue at Oxford in 1922.

Capt. Jack Fawcus, the prominent steeplechase jockey Lieut. W. Roberts, the Newport County and former Bristol City full-back.

Basil Rought-Rought, the Norfolk opening batsman.

B. J. Wood, the Norfolk wicket-keeper.—Reuter.

FROM HERE AND THERE

TOM PILE AGAIN BEATS CHRIS IN SNOOKER FINAL

Tom Pile beat his brother Chris in the Final of the Snooker Handicap at the Prison Officers' Club, Stanley, last week. It is interesting to note that they were both minus 56. Earlier in the month they met in the Final of the Championship, which the former also won.

Dr. D. J. Valentime, who was seen in the full-back position for the Hospital Division against the Health Division in the charity football match yesterday last played football in 1928-29, when he turned out for the Police R.C. Incidentally, T. Pile, who was also a member of the Police team that year, figured at right-wing, also for the Hospital side.

Choy Wing-chiu, formerly one of the finest badminton players in the Colony, has been unable to turn out hitherto this season on account of an injury sustained when roller-skating.

It is learned that G. R. Razavet, the Hong Kong Cricket Club lawn bowler, will be leaving the Colony on transfer shortly.

Lieut. Cuthbertson, of Royal Scots, is making a rapid recovery from the broken arm which he sustained in a recent Rugby match.

George Duncan, Hong Kong Football Club and Colony Interport lawn bowler, will be leaving the Colony in the course of the next few days for a six months holiday in Australia. Duncan is looking forward to this as he will

NO HOCKEY ON SUNDAY

Owing to the Christmas and New Year festivities Hong Kong Hockey Association have decided to cancel all Tournament matches fixed for Sunday.

be in Australia for the lawn bowls season and hopes to get quite a number of games in Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne.

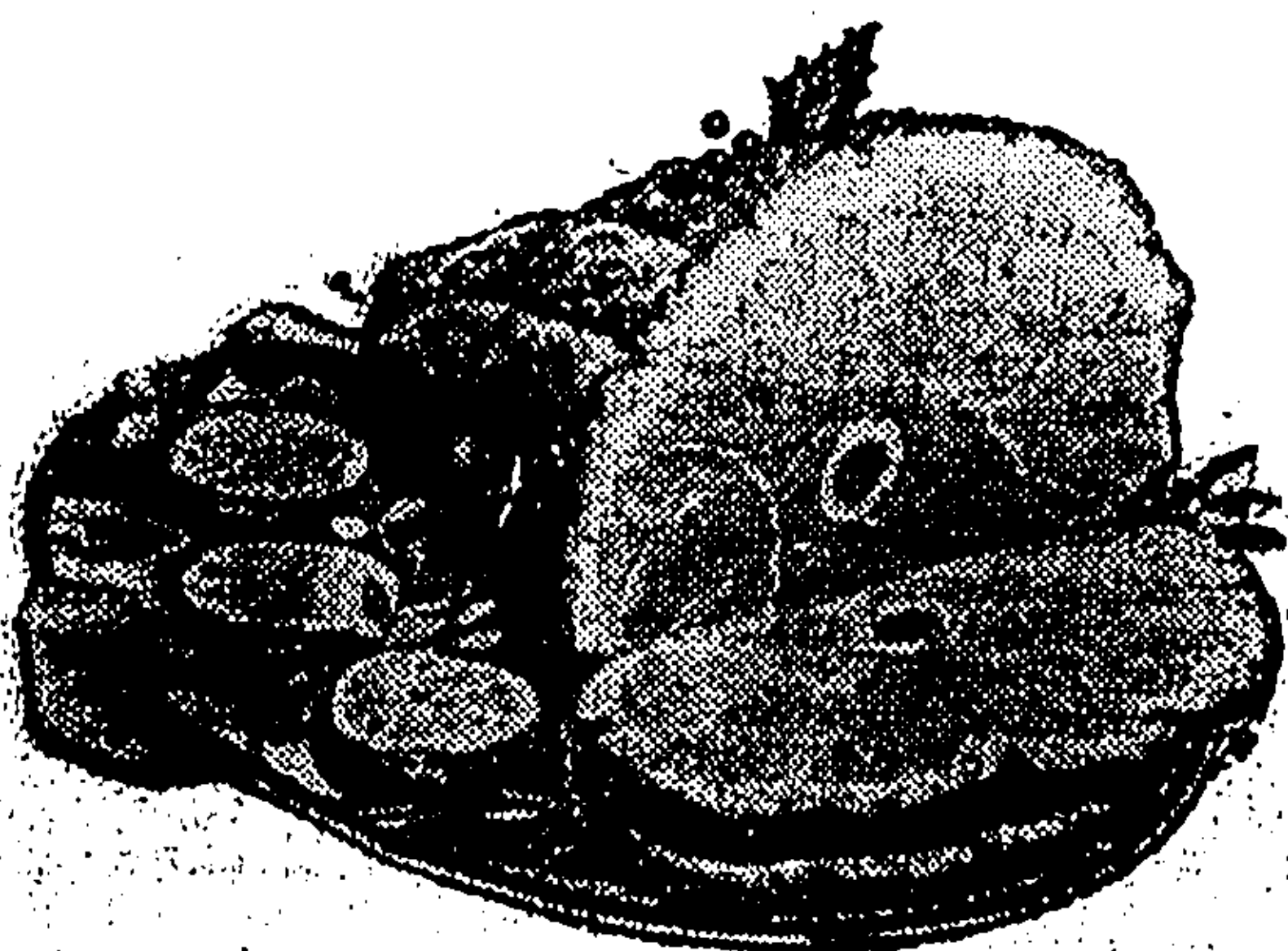
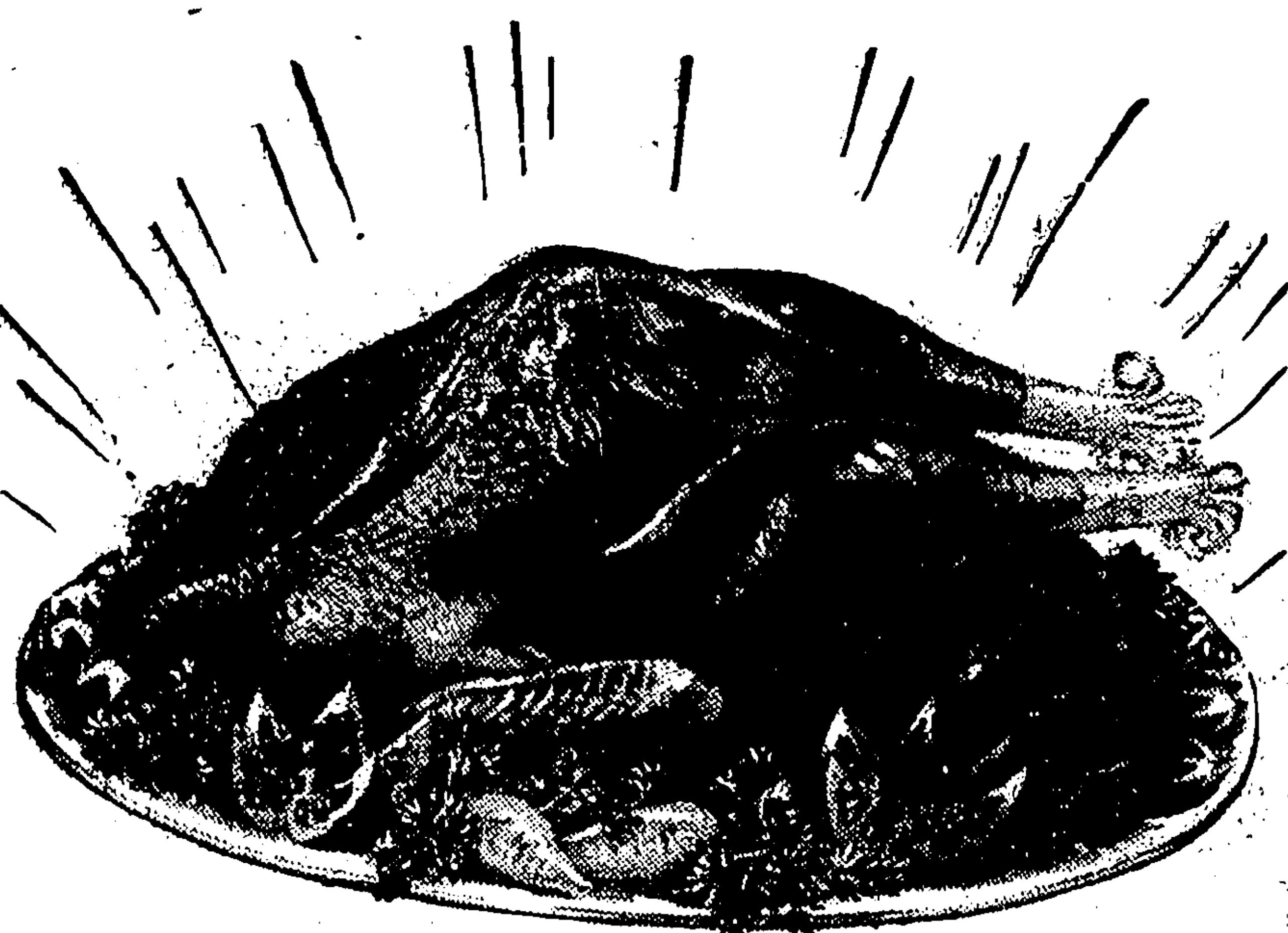
A very enjoyable evening was spent by members of the Prison Officers' Club on Thursday when the first of the monthly "Evo Nights" was held. Spoons for billiards, snooker and darts were presented by Ewo Breweries Ltd., and these were won by C. Govland, F. N. Hill and J. Marvin respectively.

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GREEK CHIMARRA TRIUMPH

Flags will be flown for three days in Greece in celebration of the capture of Cimarre (Chimarra), the fall of which has been officially announced in Athens.

Amongst the latest prisoners to be taken by the Greeks are 30 officers and 800 men composing the 153rd Battalion of Black-shirts; these troops arrived in Albania a fortnight ago.

The capture of Cimarre was achieved despite very bad weather, which slowed up the Greek advance, and has taken the Greeks along the coastal road to Valona.

Those Italians who escaped from the city will have to repeat what happened when Santi Quaranta fell — they will have to fight a desperate rear-guard action in an attempt to hold up the Greeks.

Heavy fighting is continuing in the Tepelini sector, where the Alpine divisions have suffered another defeat and enabled the Greeks to take more villages and strategic heights. — Reuter.

ARTILLERYMEN FROM N'F'LAND

ANOTHER CONTINGENT OF NEWFOUNDLAND ARTILLERY REACHED A BRITISH WEST COAST PORT YESTERDAY.

The contingent was welcomed by the Trade Commissioner for Newfoundland. — Reuter.

Dramatic Revelations In London

"I HAVE GOOD reason for believing that ex-King Carol's life is actually endangered; he is detained in the Andalusian Hotel at Seville by the order of Serrano Suner, Spanish Minister of Interior, acting under pressure from Berlin — he cannot move or make any plans."

This dramatic statement was made to Reuter last night by the former Rumanian Minister in London, M. V. V. Tilea, now leader of the Free Rumania movement.

"I want to make it clear," declared M. Tilea, "that the Free Rumania movement does not propose to have anything to do with ex-King Carol, and I am not in direct touch with him, but my information comes from a reliable source and I feel a protest against this totally unjustified treatment of a private individual is urgently called for."

"Senor Suner has Carol to thank for his life in the Spanish Civil War, because he was given refuge in the Rumanian Legation in Madrid, and Carol refused to give him up despite tremendous pressure from Barcelona."

No Just Reason

"If Carol had given way Suner would certainly have met his death then."

"There is no just reason for not allowing Carol to go. He has given his word not to

mix in politics for the duration of the war but the Spanish Government refuses to let him move." — Reuter.

ARMY PART IN FINAL RECKONING

In the final reckoning with Hitler the Army will have a decisive part to play, Mr. Anthony Eden declared yesterday in a message to General Sir John Dill, Chief of the Imperial General Staff, on leaving the War Office to assume the Foreign Secretaryship.

To all ranks, Mr. Eden expressed deep gratitude for their loyal, cheerful and unflinching help during a period which had no parallel in history.

Referring to the Egyptian campaign, Mr. Eden declared the Army of the Nile's brilliant victory was the first reward of much patient effort, no less than of dash and daring.

The quality of the Army of the Middle East to command success had been proved in Africa, as one day it would be proved in Europe. — Reuter.

BRITISH WAR PLANS

"I CAN ASSURE YOU AS I HAVE ASSURED MR. CHURCHILL THAT CANADA IS UNITED AS NEVER BEFORE IN EVERY ACTIVITY THAT WILL HELP THE WAR EFFORT," SAID THE CANADIAN DEFENCE MINISTER YESTERDAY. HE IS ON A SHORT VISIT TO BRITAIN.

His mission, he said, is to learn the conditions under which the Battle of Britain is being fought and to discuss with the Canadian Commander-in-Chief details of the administration and training of the Canadian troops, and particularly cooperation with the forces of the United Kingdom.

He has consulted members of the Government of the United Kingdom about British war plans, both present and future. — Reuter.

MARSHAL PETAIN REJECTS NAZI DEMANDS

(Continued from Page 1) shows that the temperature has gone down although the patient's condition is still grave.

The correspondent adds that although the German reply is still awaited, Marshal Petain's Note is believed to have had a favourable reception.

When the Foreign Minister received a series of visitors in Vichy he gave an impression of optimism. — Reuter.

STOP PRESS

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL") Report received in Kwong Chow Wan last night hint that the French Indo-China authorities have given the Japanese permission to land marines in Saigon. There is no confirmation. — Our Own Correspondent.

The prefix "special" to telegrams is used by the "Sunday Herald" and "China Mail" to indicate news which is strictly copyright under the provisions of the Telecommunications Ordinance, 1936, and may not be reprinted under any circumstances, either wholly or in part, without prior arrangement.

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MARSHAL PETAIN REJECTS NAZI DEMANDS

BOMBS DROPPED IN ULSTER

The dropping of bombs in Northern Ireland was announced in an official statement by the Northern Ireland Ministry of Public Security yesterday.

The statement says: "On several occasions during the past week enemy aircraft have been identified operating over Northern Ireland."

"Bombs have been dropped, all of which fell in open country. No damage was caused and there were no casualties."—Reuter.

MANCHESTER CASUALTIES NOT GREAT

The number of fatal casualties in the raid on Manchester on Sunday night is comparatively small in view of the severity of the attack, it was stated in London last night, says Reuter.

But Fears Of Blitz Action Against Vichy Diminish

FRANCE IS ANXIOUSLY AWAITING HITLER'S NEXT MOVE FOLLOWING REPORTS THAT MARSHAL PETAIN HAS FIRMLY REFUSED GERMAN DEMANDS BOTH FOR MILITARY COOPERATION AND THE REINSTATEMENT OF PIERRE LAVAL AS FOREIGN MINISTER.

While fears of imminent "blitz" action by the German army against unoccupied France have given place to a note of moderate optimism, it is realised that the danger is by no means past.

Flandin is reported to profess confidence that Hitler will be satisfied with Marshal Petain's reply in which concessions of some kind are evidently made.

Neutral observers are asking whether the possibility of Marshal Petain ordering the resumption of French resistance, on the plea that the armistice is being violated, will be enough to restrain the Nazi war machine.

It is pointed out that the Germans, anxious as they are to gain a foothold on the shores of the Mediterranean and to seize France's submarine fleet, must be sorely tempted to march if "peaceful pressure" fails.

Marshal Petain is fighting hard to keep his word to the French people that France's unity will be maintained — to gain time to strengthen the discipline of unoccupied France and the French colonies.

The correspondent adds that there is absolute confidence that Marshal Petain has no intention of accepting any "political engagements contrary to the honour of the fleet and the army."

Impression Of Optimism

The Vichy correspondent of "La Suisse" writes: "To-day's bulletin about the health of France (Continued On Page 16)"

TASS DENIAL

THE OFFICIAL TASS AGENCY IN MOSCOW YESTERDAY ISSUED A DENIAL OF A REPORT PUBLISHED IN AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS THAT THE CHINESE ARMY IS RECEIVING LARGE QUANTITIES OF WAR MATERIAL, MATERIAL, MEDICAMENTS, AND OTHER SUPPLIES VIA VLADIVOSTOK.

Tass also denied a report that an American military officer will shortly go to Vladivostok to speed up the transportation of war material to China.

The agency says: "This report is fabricated from beginning to end."—Reuter.

SAIGON REPORT

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL") Report received in Kwong Chow Wan last night hint that the French Indo-China authorities have given the Japanese permission to land marines in Saigon. There is no confirmation.—Our Own Correspondent.

WASTES OF FLAME SPREAD OVER MANNHEIM AREA

SPREADING WASTES OF FLAME WERE SEEN BY R.A.F. PILOTS AFTER DROPPING THEIR BOMBS IN SUNDAY NIGHT'S RAID ON MANNHEIM.

Most damage was done in the neighbourhood of the main railway station and on the Ludwigshafen side of the Rhine.

The raid was the seventh on Mannheim since the beginning of December.

It is already known from sources other than reports of British pilots that great damage was done in earlier raids, which were by no means the most severe.

The Rhine harbour was hit and barges sunk, and it is revealed that the traffic which helps give Mannheim its position as the most important industrial centre in south-west Germany was seriously impeded.

Mannheim is also a vital railway junction, and traffic to France had to be diverted to another and less satisfactory line.—Reuter.

SOVIET STICKY ON FISHERIES

IT WAS UNDERSTOOD FROM OFFICIAL SOURCES IN TOKYO YESTERDAY THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN JAPAN AND SOVIET RUSSIA FOR A FISHERIES AGREEMENT ARE MEETING WITH DIFFICULTIES.

For this reason the Japanese hope of replacing the temporary

HALIFAX ASSURED OF WELCOME

The appointment of Lord Halifax as British Ambassador to the United States is highly welcomed by the United States Government.

Mr. Cordell Hull, Secretary of State, has issued a statement to this effect, adding that Lord Halifax's record was such as to commend him to the United States as Ambassador.

Mr. Cordell Hull states he looks forward with pleasure to working with Lord Halifax.—Reuter.

treaty before its expiration on Dec. 31 is said to be receding. It is also learned that the present negotiations are not even for a permanent pact, as provided in the present 'modus vivendi', but only for an extension of the existing arrangement.—Reuter.

Army Inspection

That this is more than a mere phrase is indicated by the recent activity of General Huntziger, Minister of War, who has just inspected France's armistice army and the French fleet at Toulon and in North Africa.

General Weygand and General Bergeret, Minister for Air, have completed visits to all chief centres in France's African colonies and in Syria.

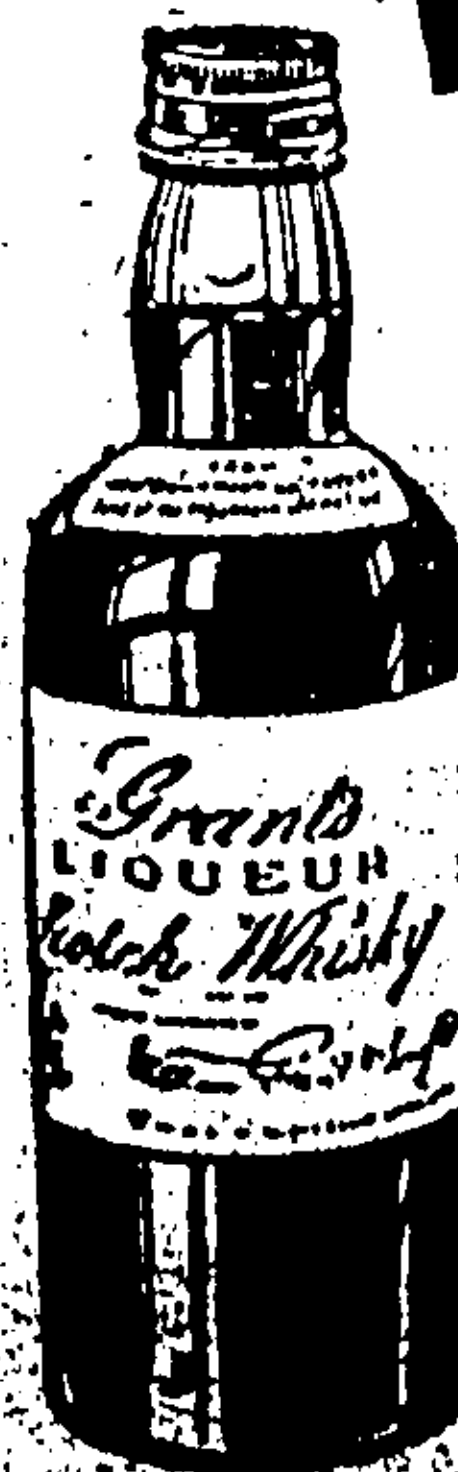
Meanwhile Swiss correspondents, reporting that a feeling of hopefulness is now noticed in Vichy, say that Frenchmen are anxiously watching the demarcation line separating them from Nazi-occupied territory.

Presented On Sunday

The French reply to Hitler's demands was presented to Abetz, Ribbentrop's representative in Paris, by the Comte de Brinon, Vichy's delegate-general in occupied territory, on Sunday, according to the "Gazette de Lausanne."

The newspaper's Vichy correspondent says that though nothing is known of the exact number of German demands or the reply, "the atmosphere which reigned in Vichy last week has disappeared as if by a

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HEIR TO FURNESS MILLIONS MISSING BELIEVED KILLED

A BRITISH OFFICER who was reported "missing believed killed" is now named chief heir to the Furness millions.

He is the Hon. Christopher Furness, son of Viscount Furness, ship-builder and industrialist, who died in October leaving unsettled estate valued at over £3,661,000, of which £1,850,000 estate duty has been paid.

Viscount Furness left seven-eighths of the residue of the property upon trust for his son, Christopher.

It was revealed in London yesterday that in spite of far-reaching inquiries, no news of Christopher has been received since he fell leading his platoon in France on May 24.

No-one has seen him dead. There is no information of his being a prisoner of war. Inquiries in France have had no result.

It is considered that the succession to the title cannot be determined until the end of the war.

William Anthony

In the event of the death of Christopher Furness being presumed, the new Lord Furness

will be the seven-year-old William Anthony, son of the Viscount by his second wife, now Mrs. Thelma Converse.

William Anthony was bequeathed the remaining eighth of the residue of the Viscount's property. — Reuter.

PETAIN'S APPEAL

AN APPEAL FOR THE RESTORATION OF "IMPARTIALITY, FIRMNESS, DISCIPLINE AND HONOUR" IN ALL RANKS OF THE FRENCH COLONIAL SERVICE, WAS MADE BY ADMIRAL PLATON, MINISTER FOR COLONIES, YESTERDAY.

In a circular to colonial governors, Platon urges: "In the exercise of your authority let all your acts be inspired by the duty which devolves on all Frenchmen to take part with vigour and confidence in the work of national rehabilitation laid down by Marshal Petain." — Reuter.

IMMIGRATION PETITION REJECTED

The Chinese Chamber of Commerce petition for postponement of the enforcement of the Immigration Ordinance to February 15, 1941, has been rejected.

The Ordinance will be enforced on January 14, 1941.

YESTERDAY.

In a circular to colonial governors, Platon urges: "In the exercise of your authority let all your acts be inspired by the duty which devolves on all Frenchmen to take part with vigour and confidence in the work of national rehabilitation laid down by Marshal Petain." — Reuter.

R.A.F. Onslaught On Aerodromes In Libya

A BIG ONSLAUGHT by the R.A.F. on Italian air bases behind the Libyan war front was reported in yesterday's R.A.F. communique in Cairo, as well as a big air battle in Albania.

Aerodromes at Berka and Benina — two main reinforcement dromes near Benghazi — were heavily raided on the night of Dec. 21.

300 BOMBS ON ITALIAN AIR BASE

Details are now available from Nairobi of the raid on Yavello, Abyssinia, which is officially described as "the biggest thing since Mogadisho."

Flying over country of a very forbidding nature, aircraft of the South African Air Force spotted enemy aircraft concealed in bushes.

Despite heavy anti-aircraft fire three waves of planes swooped upon their targets. Two Caproni machines were set afire and left charred on the ground while a third was reduced to wreckage by an incendiary bomb.

Three hundred bombs were dropped on the target area, and the perimeter was machine-gunned.

Three more Capronis were clearly seen to be seriously damaged. Part of the wing of one was torn off, the fuselage of another was practically blown out of the aircraft while a third was left like a shell.

All the South African aircraft returned safely to base. — British Wireless.

NEW TAXES IN CANTON NEXT YEAR

An interesting sidelight on Canton government activities is provided by an item in the "Canton Daily Sun" which notified those interested that bids

Big fires were started at Berka while at Benina three hangars were left burning and badly damaged and aircraft on the ground machine-gunned from 500 feet.

Considerable damage was caused the same night at the Italian stronghold of Tobruk, where British bombers attacked the harbour and military objectives.

Albania Air Battle

A fierce air battle took place over Argirokastron between nine British fighters and over 50 Italian planes.

Eight enemy fighters were definitely shot down and three more probably destroyed, while two British planes were lost.

The R.A.F. communique continues: "The pilot of one British machine was seen being machine-gunned by Italian fighters while he was descending by parachute."

"He died half an hour after he was found from wounds received during his parachute descent."

Second Occasion

"It is placed on record that this is the second occasion since hostilities began in the Middle East that irrefutable evidence has been received of an R.A.F. pilot having been machine-gunned while making a parachute descent."

"This follows the practice of Italian pilots adopted in the Spanish war."

The communique adds that oil wells at Kucove, in central Albania, were raided by R.A.F. bombers on Sunday.

One enemy aircraft is believed to have been shot down while two British aircraft failed to return. — Reuter.

are open for monopolies in the Pun-yu district.

Monopolies put to tender are: gambling, a minimum of Y6,400 a month; sugar, Y10,000 per annum, and joss paper and candles Y2,000 per annum.

The paper states that according to a Municipal Government report four new types of taxes are to be enforced early next year. They are an amusement tax, tax on fresh sea products imported into the city, a tax on prostitution and a tax on advertising. — Reuter.

EDEN APPOINTMENT CAUSES OUTBURST OF NAZI WRATH

AN OUTBURST OF WRATH in the German press has greeted the appointment of Mr. Anthony Eden as Foreign Secretary.

The "Boersen Zeitung" writes: "With Eden there comes to the Foreign Office a man whose activities have been dictated by a pathological hatred of the authoritarian States."

"With this appointment London expects an improvement in British-Russian relations and stiffens the attitude to Japan, Spain, and other members of the Axis."

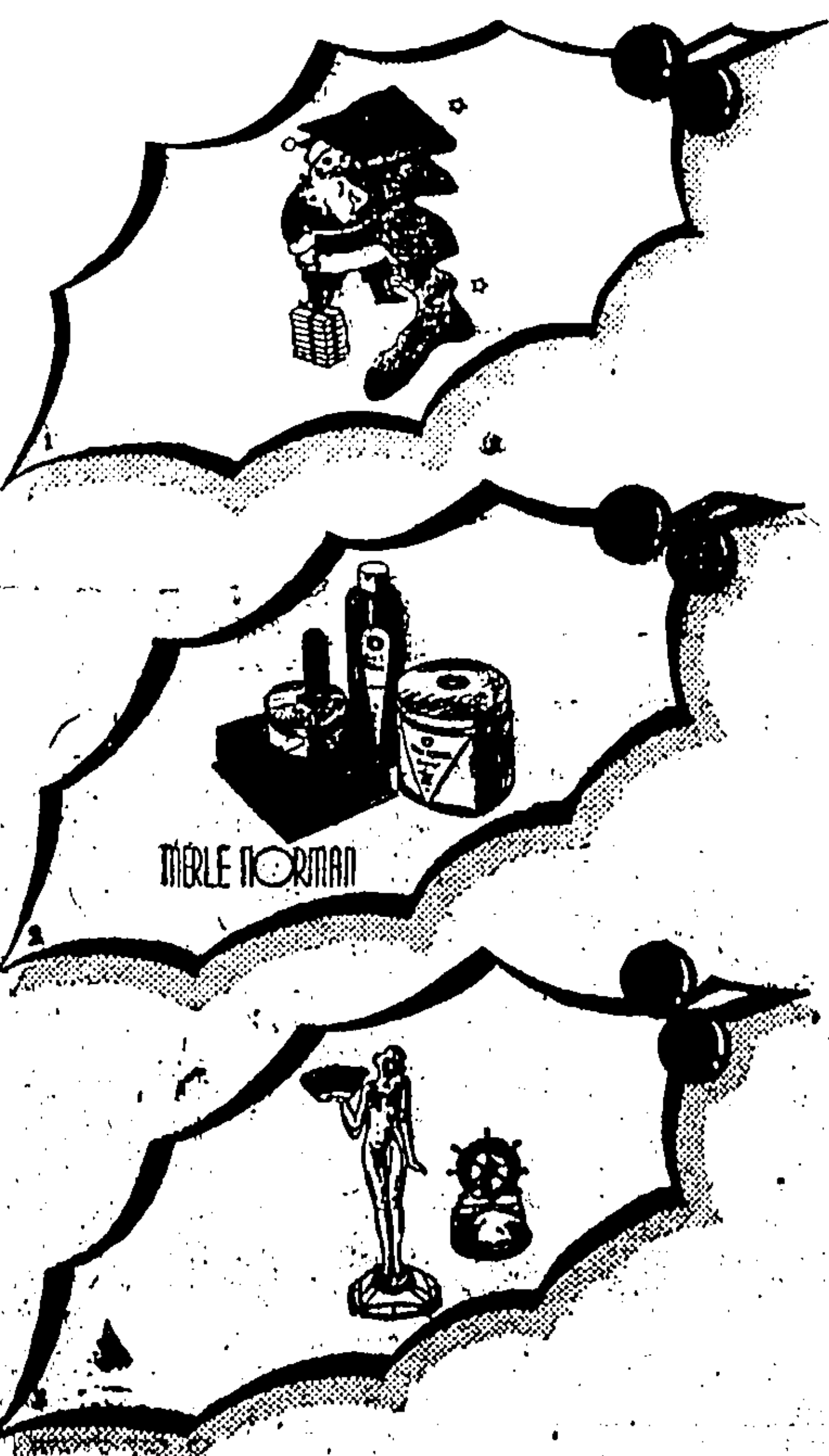
"The answer to these illusions will be a crushing one. All these nations, including the Soviets, will only see the true face of England more clearly for the appointment of Eden."

The "Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung" says: "Those who have whipped up the anti-war Churchill, Eden, and Henderson are now on the spot where they deserve to be."

"All three are furnished with the guilt of war, and are now branded with full responsibility for Britain's decline, which their policy has brought about." — Reuter.



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2. Give her a gift of enchanting allurements—give Merle Norman. We carry a complete stock of these high quality beauty needs—for face and for body. Attractively boxed.

3. A smoking stand, or a humidor smoker will please any man who is lucky enough to get so useful a gift for Christmas! We have a wealth of clever models, interestingly priced for holiday shoppers.

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ITALIANS INVITED TO THINK

Mr. Churchill Suggests Disavowal Of Mussolini

WHIP TO CABINET RANK

His Majesty the King held a Privy Council at Buckingham Palace yesterday morning at which Mr. Anthony Eden received his seals of office as the new Foreign Secretary and Captain Margesson as the Secretary for War.

They kissed hands on their appointment.

Mr. Eden took over at the Foreign Office yesterday. He is no stranger there, for he was Foreign Secretary from 1935 to 1938.

His return is widely welcomed by the British press, and Viscount Cranborne, who will go to the House of Lords as Government spokesman on foreign policy, will renew his collaboration with Mr. Eden, for from 1935 to 1938 he was Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs.

He resigned with Mr. Eden because neither supported Mr. Chamberlain's policy of appeasing Italy.

The choice of Captain Margesson is somewhat unusual, as he has been Chief Government Whip for nine years and has never yet held Cabinet rank.

His organising ability and strong sense of discipline are expected to fit him well for the post of Secretary of State for War. — Reuter.

GENEROUS GIFT OF MALAYAN CHINESE

AS A RESULT OF A BIG DRIVE BY THE CHINESE COMMUNITY OF MALAYA A FORT-NIGHT AGO, £30,000 HAS BEEN RAISED FOR THE LORD MAYOR'S AIR-RAID DISTRESS FUND.

The money will be sent to London shortly. — Reuter.



CAN'T SLEEP NIGHTS?

A hot cup of Cocomalt before retiring induces sound and peaceful sleep.



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Need Destruction Of Italy Go On

A DRAMATIC APPEAL TO THE ITALIAN NATION TO DISAVOW MUSSOLINI AND TO FOLLOW THE HOUSE OF SAVOY WAS MADE BY THE PRIME MINISTER, MR. WINSTON CHURCHILL, BROADCASTING FROM LONDON LAST NIGHT.

Mr. Churchill also revealed for the first time that messages had passed between him and the Duce just prior to Italy's entry into the war — messages which disclosed that Italy only took up arms against Britain because of her treaty with Germany.

"To-night," said Mr. Churchill, "I speak to the Italian people, and I speak to you from London, the heart of the British Islands and of the British Commonwealth and Empire.

"I speak to you what diplomats call words of great truth and respect. We are at war—that is a very strange and terrible thought.

"Whoever would imagine, until the last few melancholy years, that the British and Italian nations would be trying to destroy one another?

"We have always been friends. We were the champions of the Italian risorgimento. We were partisans of Garibaldi, Mazzini and Cavour.

Liberal Movement

"All that great movement towards liberty of the Italian nation which lighted the 19th Century was aided and was hailed by the British Parliament and public.

"Our fathers and our grandfathers longed to see Italy freed from the Austrian yoke and to see all minor barriers in Italy swept away so that the Italian people and their fair land might take their honoured place as one of the leading powers upon the Continent and as a brilliant and gifted member of the family of Europe and of Christendom.

"We have never been your foes until now. In the last war, against the barbarous Huns, we were your comrades.

"For fifteen years after that war we were your friends.

"Although the institutions which you adopted after the war were not akin to ours and diverged, as we think, from the sovereign impulses which had commanded the unity of Italy, we could still walk together in peace and goodwill.

Amity And Esteem

"Many thousands of our people dwelt with you in Italy. We liked each other, we got on well together. There were reciprocal services, there was amity, there was esteem.

"And now we are at war; now we are condemned to work each other's ruin. Our aviators are tearing and will tear your African Empire to shreds and tatters.

"We are only now at the beginning of this sombre tale. Who can say where it will end? "Presently we shall be forced to come to much closer grips.

One Man

"How has all this come about and what is it all for? Italians, I will tell you the truth.

"It is all because of one man. One man and one man alone has ranged the Italian people in a deadly struggle against the British Empire and has deprived Italy of the sympathy and intimacy of the United States of America.

"That he is a great man I do not deny; but that after eighteen years of unbridled power he has led your country to the horrible verge of ruin can be denied by none.

"It is all one man who, against the Crown and Royal Family, against the Pope and all

the authority of the Vatican and of the Roman Catholic Church, against the wishes of the Italian people, who had no lust for this war, has arrayed the inheritors of ancient Rome upon the side of the pagan barbarians.

Tragedy Of History

"There is the tragedy of Italian history and there stands the criminal who has wrought it.

"What is the defence that is put forward for his action? It is, of course, the quarrel about Sanctions and Abyssinia. Let us look at that.

"Together after the last war Italy and Britain both signed the Covenant of the League of Nations, which forbid all parties to that Covenant to make war upon each other or upon fellow members of the League, and bound all signatories to come to the aid of any member who was attacked by another.

"Presently Abyssinia came knocking at the door asking to be a member. We British advised against it. We doubted whether they had reached a stage in their development which warranted their inclusion, but it was Mussolini who insisted that Abyssinia should become a member of the League, and who therefore bound himself and bound you and us to respect their covenanted rights.

What Need?

"I declare—and my words will go far—that nothing that happened in that Abyssinian quarrel can count for or justify the deadly war which has now broken out between us.

"Then the great war, between the British and French democracies and the Prussian militarists or Nazi dictatorship began again. "Where was the need of Italy to intervene? Where was the need to strike at prostrate France? Where was the need to invade Egypt, which is under British protection?

"We were content with Italian neutrality. During the first eight months of the war we paid great deference to Italian interests.

But this was all put down to fear.

"Now that I have taken up my office as Prime Minister and Minister of Defence, I look back to our meeting in Rome and feel a desire to speak words of goodwill to you, as chief of the Italian nation, across what seems to be a swiftly widened gulf.

Is It Too Late?

"Is it too late to stop a river of blood from flowing between the British and Italian peoples?

"We can, no doubt, inflict grievous injuries upon one another and mutual enmity can be cruelly and bitterly increased. The Mediterranean with our strife.

"It is idle to predict the course of the great battles now raging in Europe, but I am sure that what

may happen on the Continent, England will go on to the end, even quite alone, as we have done before, and I believe with some assurance that we shall be aided in increasing measure by the United States, and indeed by all Americas.

"This is the gist of a letter I sent to Signor Mussolini when I became Prime Minister.

Choice Open

"I make no comment upon the Duce's answer. It speaks for itself. Anyone can see who it was that wanted peace and who it was that meant to have war.

"One man and only one man was resolved to pledge Italy after all these years of strain and effort into the whirlpool of war.

"What is the position of Italy to-day? Where is it that the Duce has led his distrusting people after eighteen years of duceatorial power?

"What hard choice is open now? It is to stand up to the battery of the whole British Empire on the sea, in the air, and in Africa, and to the vigorous counter-attack of Greece.

"There is one man and one only who has led you there.

"I leave this unfolding until the day comes—as come it will—when the Italian nation will once more take the shaping of its own fortunes." — Reuter.

ITALIAN APOLOGY FOR DEFEAT

The remarkable "apology" issued by the Italian news agency in the form of reports from Marshal Graziani on the operations in the Western Desert has aroused some comment in military circles in London.

The Italian High Command is at pains to say that the Fascist troops "resisted nobly but the weight of attack was too much."

A similar tribute is paid to the R.A.F. when the Italian High Command says that they could not make the full weight of the Italian air force felt because of bad weather.

No explanation is given why the weather should have been worse for the Italians than it was for the R.A.F. in the same sky!

Graziani's point that he was not taken by surprise only makes the Italian defence seem even more inefficient.

It is not clear why Graziani should say he had adequate supplies of guns to deal with any movement from the south when in fact the British attacked from that direction. — Reuter.

NAVAL BUILDING IN CANADA

Britain has placed orders in Canada for another 12 minesweepers. This brings the total number of naval vessels to be built in Canadian shipyards up to 120. — Reuter.

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36,000 PRISONERS AND THOUSANDS MORE TO BE COUNTED

THE NUMBER OF Italians taken prisoner in the Western Desert is now set at almost 36,000—with several thousands more waiting to be counted. Bardia is still being shelled while British preparations continue outside it.

G.H.Q., Cairo, yesterday announced that prisoners evacuated from the main Sidi Barani area now total 35,949, including 1,704 officers.

Several thousand more have not yet been brought in from the forward camps.

It is pointed out in London that Bardia is a different proposition from Sidi Barani.

At Sidi Barani, the Italians had erected as elaborate defences as they could in the two months they were there.

Bardia, in the other hand, has been defended ever since the Italians arrived in Libya. There are permanent fortifications running round it for some seven or eight miles in every direction. There are also a large number of coastal-defence guns.

The importance of Bardia is shown in a recent Rome broadcast which said:—

"The defence of Bardia is not only the defence of Libya but also of Fascism."

Bardia's port is only of minor importance. Two ships can go in at one time, but there is only a small pier with about 10 feet of water. All embarkation and disembarkation has to be by lighters and boats, and bad weather easily interferes with such operations.

There is, actually, no port of any size between Alexandria and Tobruk.

The Sidi Barani anchorage is entirely exposed and there is only a small pier at which boats can land. To embark the Italian prisoners, the Navy had a very difficult job requiring special organisation.

At Mersa Matruh, ships of any size have to stay out at sea. There are two jetties with about 12 feet of water. — Reuter.

JAPANESE MURDERED

YET ANOTHER JAPANESE SERVICEMAN HAS BEEN MURDERED IN THE JAPANESE-CONTROLLED AREA OF SHANGHAI.

The fourteenth Japanese victim in recent weeks is Satoshi Miyazaki, a Japanese consular policeman, who was "brutally murdered by three unidentified Chinese" last Friday night in Nantao, the Japanese-occupied district adjoining the French Concession, according to the Japanese press in Shanghai to-day.

Fifteen slashes were found on Miyazaki when he was picked up and rushed to hospital, where he died shortly afterwards.

It is believed he was attacked with a meat chopper. — Reuter.

WAITING GAME BY WAVELL ARMY IN LIBYA

The British forces in Libya are playing a waiting game. Apart from a steady stream of reinforcements consolidating the positions around Bardia and intermittent shelling there is nothing further to report. — Reuter.

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MUTT AND JEFF

By BUD FISHER



7-MINUTE RADIO "CURE" FOR A COLD

MR. ERNEST BEVIN, the Minister of Labour, has instructed officials of his department to investigate a short-wave radio cure for the common cold.

The cure is being practised by J. P. P. Stock, of Stoke-on-Trent, who has tried it out on more than 100 patients, and claims successful results in more than 70 per cent. of these cases.

It was demonstrated to Mr. Bevin when he was inspecting a factory the other day. The Minister was greatly impressed.

The common cold, he pointed

out, probably causes more loss of working hours than Goering's bombers.

One of Dr. Stock's associates said:

"The patient is placed in the circuit of a short-wave wireless transmission, and the apparatus has two electrodes which hang in front of the forehead and at the back of the head.

"The first treatment lasts about seven minutes, and the second—if a second is necessary—for ten minutes.

"The patient feels nothing except a faint and decidedly comforting glow. In most cases the cold disappears within a few hours.

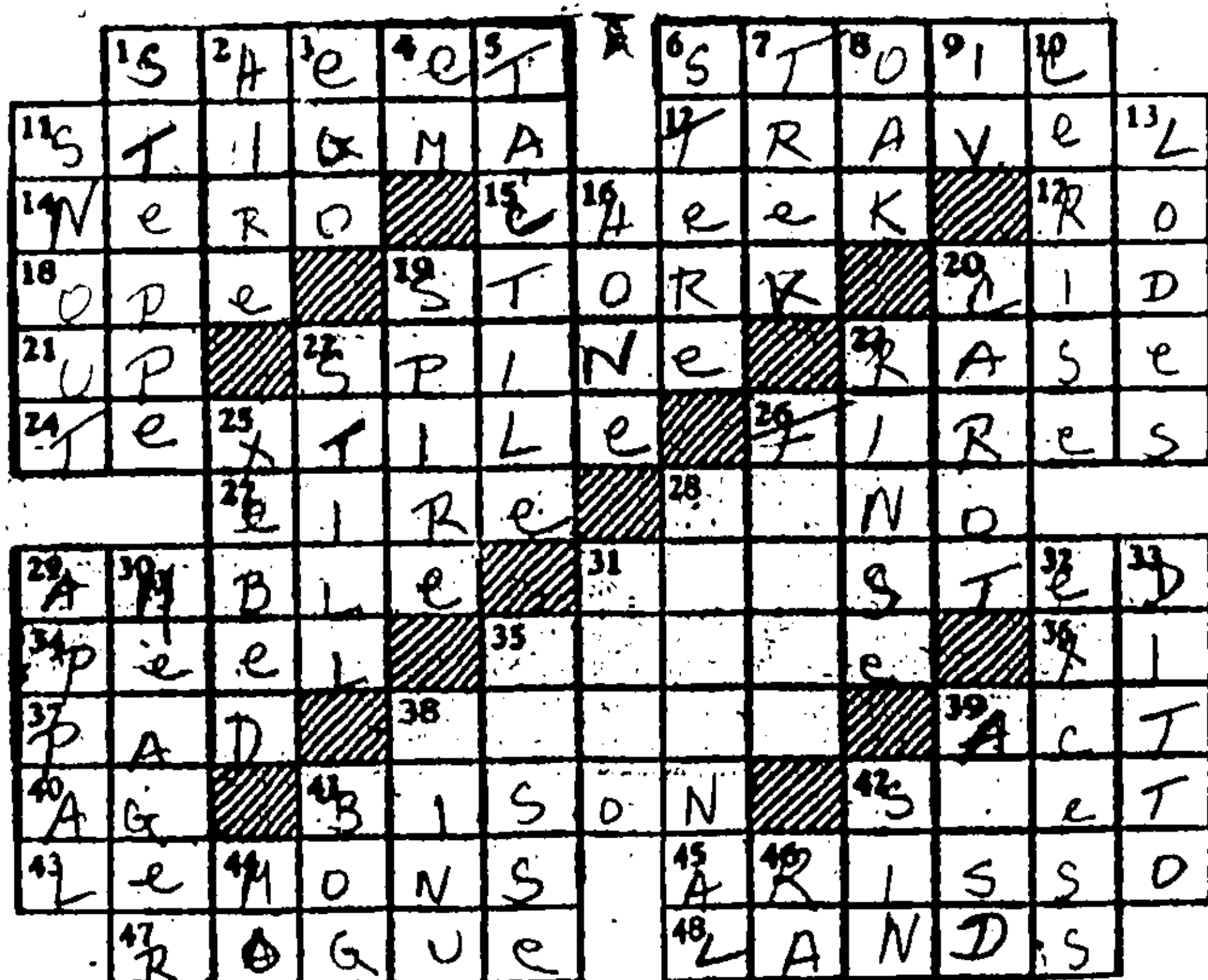
"Dr. Stock discovered the treatment by accident when he was experimenting to discover a cure for asthma."

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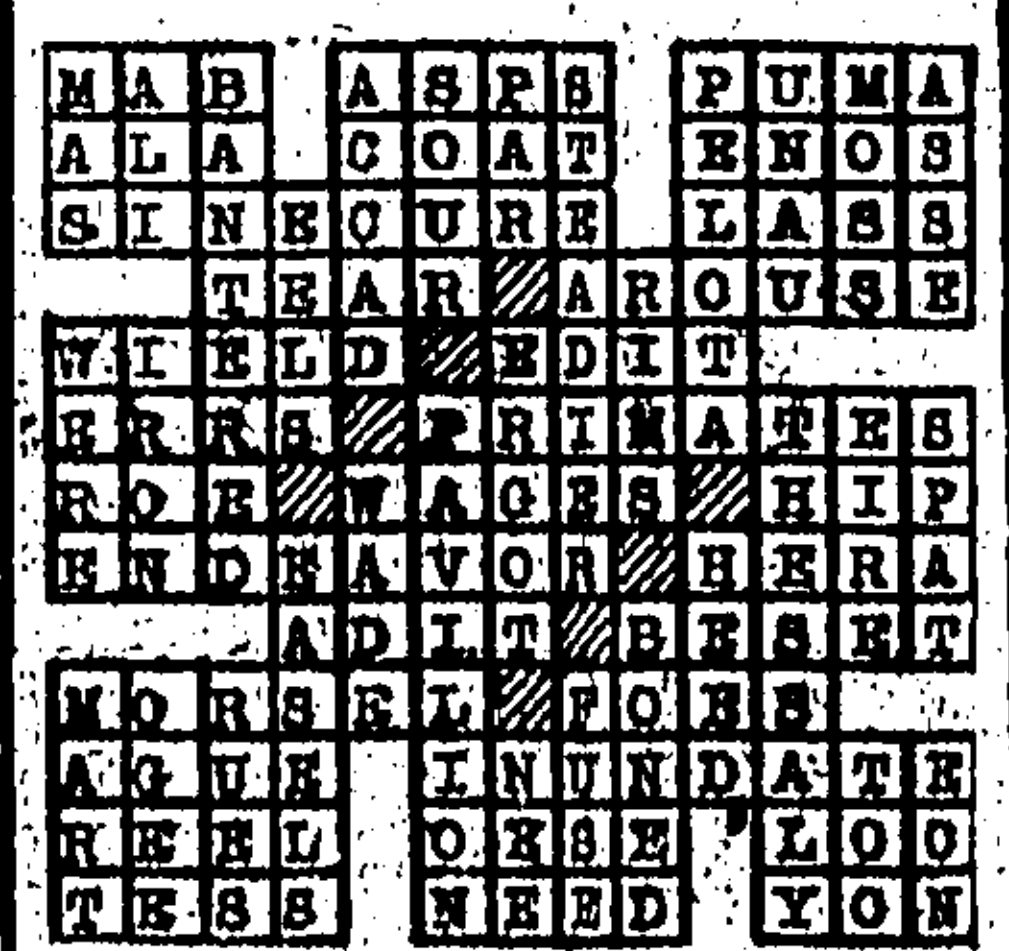


- HORIZONTAL**
- 1 To shroud
 - 6 Person indifferent to pleasure or pain
 - 11 Mark of infamy
 - 12 To journey
 - 14 Roman emperor
 - 15 Colloquial: impudence
 - 17 Artificial language
 - 18 Poetic: to unclothe
 - 19 Long-legged bird
 - 20 Spanish hero
 - 21 Above
 - 22 Backbone
 - 23 To destroy
 - 24 Fabric capable of being woven
 - 26 Conflagration
 - 27 Ireland
 - 28 Roman mid-day meal
 - 29 Pace between a walk and a trot
 - 31 Raised
 - 34 To pare
 - 35 To combine
 - 36 Eleven
 - 37 Moccasin

- 39 High priest
- 40 Pretense
- 40 Symbol for silver
- 41 American buffalo
- 42 Small barracuda
- 43 Citrus fruits
- 45 Music: of the nature of an aria and a recitative
- 47 Scamp
- 48 Allights

- VERTICAL**
- 1 Treeless plain
 - 2 To employ
 - 3 The self
 - 4 Printer's measure
 - 5 Pertaining to the sense of touch
 - 6 Metric measure
 - 7 Organised migration
 - 8 Acorn-bearing tree
 - 9 Four
 - 10 Cherry-colour
 - 11 Animal's nose
 - 13 Metal-bearing veins
 - 16 To sharpen
 - 19 Steeple
 - 20 Jewel measure
 - 22 Yet
 - 23 To wash lightly
 - 25 Three-masted vessel
 - 26 To simulate
 - 28 Garland
 - 29 To frighten
 - 30 Scant
 - 31 Mythological Greek priestess
 - 32 Superabundance
 - 33 Likewise
 - 35 Billiard shot
 - 36 Japanese aborigine
 - 37 Footless animal
 - 41 Swamp
 - 42 To transgress
 - 44 Japanese money
 - 46 Sun god

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION



CRASHED AFTER A DOG-FIGHT

Pilot Surprises Hotel Guests

(Miss Helen Kirkpatrick, of the London staff of the Chicago "Daily News," sent the following message to her paper:)

A slightly battered young R.A.F. fighter pilot wandered into my hotel after having been brought down. His entrance was, to say the least, sensational.

It was around dinner hour, and the hotel lobby was packed with that curious assortment of people whose prototypes filled the Ritz Hotel, Madrid, and Bordeaux's Royal Gascogne during the bitter days of those countries' struggles. Suddenly the swinging door revolved and into the brilliant light walked a young R.A.F. pilot with parachute harness, flying boots, and gear. He had a deep cut down his forehead.

Quickly a crowd gathered round, but he made straight for a group captain in one corner. Later I was invited to join them, and his story came out.

He had been in a fierce dog-fight over the South-East Coast. There were lots of Germans—probably that big formation which had tried to get through to London but did not succeed.

Could Not Bait Out

His story of the fight was slightly confused. He only knew it was a hot one, with lots and lots of 'planes all mixed up. He thought he had brought down one Nazi, anyway, and just as he was straightening up to attack another he saw flying beside his Spitfire an enemy aircraft.

"Suddenly he gave it to me and I knew he'd got me," said the pilot. "I tried to bait out, but couldn't make it, so I made a crash landing in a field. My Spitfire's tail was hanging by only four rivets."

In his crash landing he had hit his head against the windshield, but the farmer in whose field he had landed helped him to fix that up and fed him. Then he started to make his way back to his station somewhere north of London. He had got as far as London when night and a raid made it difficult for him to find his way to the station. Someone in a private car had picked him up near the station and dropped him on the doorstep of the hotel.

I asked for him later, but they said he had gone off to his squadron.

"ALL SERGEANTS" RAID

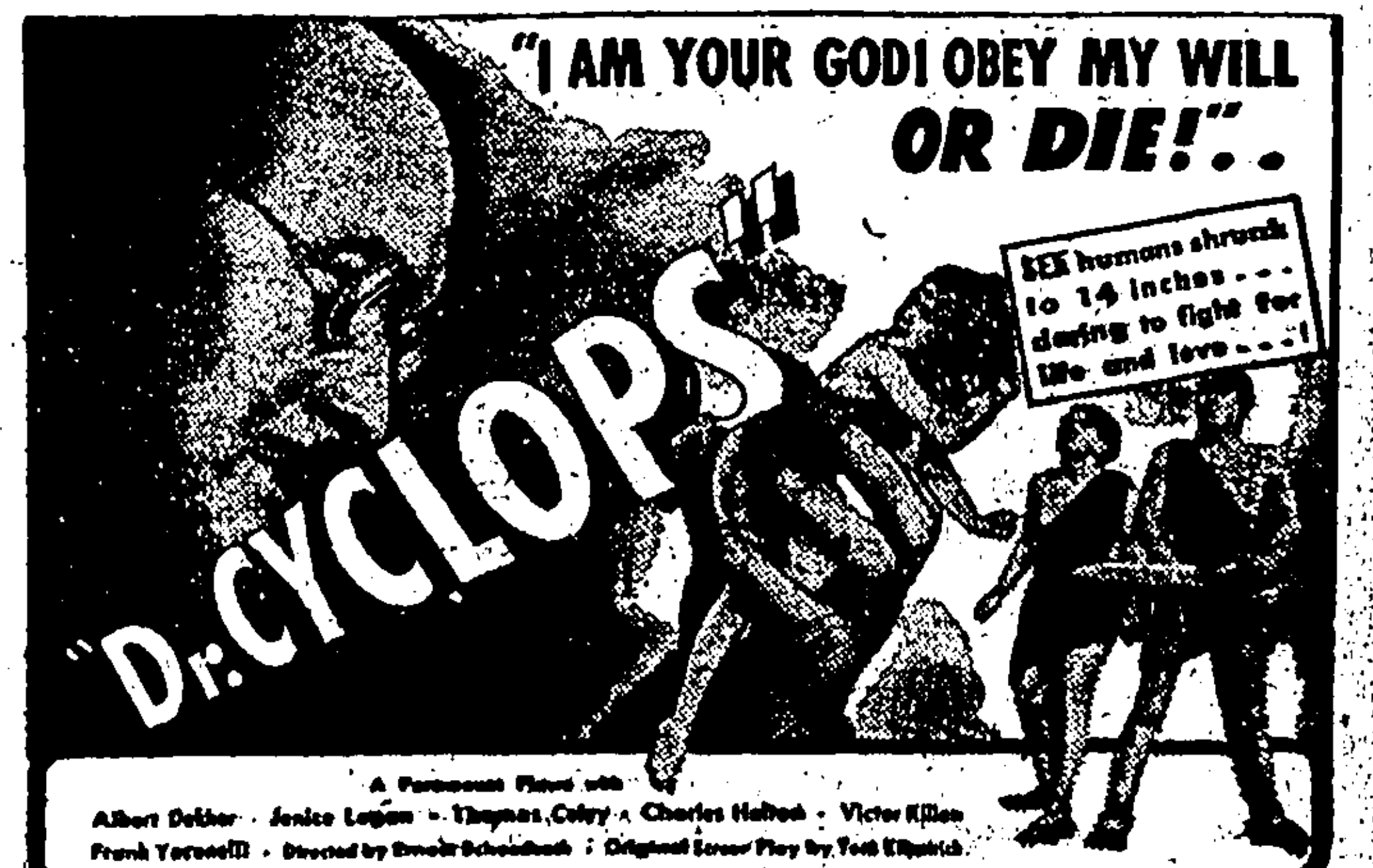
One of the recent very successful raids on the German-occupied aerodrome at St. Omer was carried out entirely by Sergeants. Each of the bombers engaged had a sergeant pilot at the controls, accompanied by a sergeant observer and a sergeant air gunner.

Several of the sergeant pilots were old hands, but one making his first raid on the enemy, was also the first to reach the target. As soon as he dropped his bombs a cluster of searchlights caught and held his aircraft, and while it was still in the beam several enemy fighters converged to attack. Dodging swiftly, the pilot dived off into the darkness and the fighters lost him.

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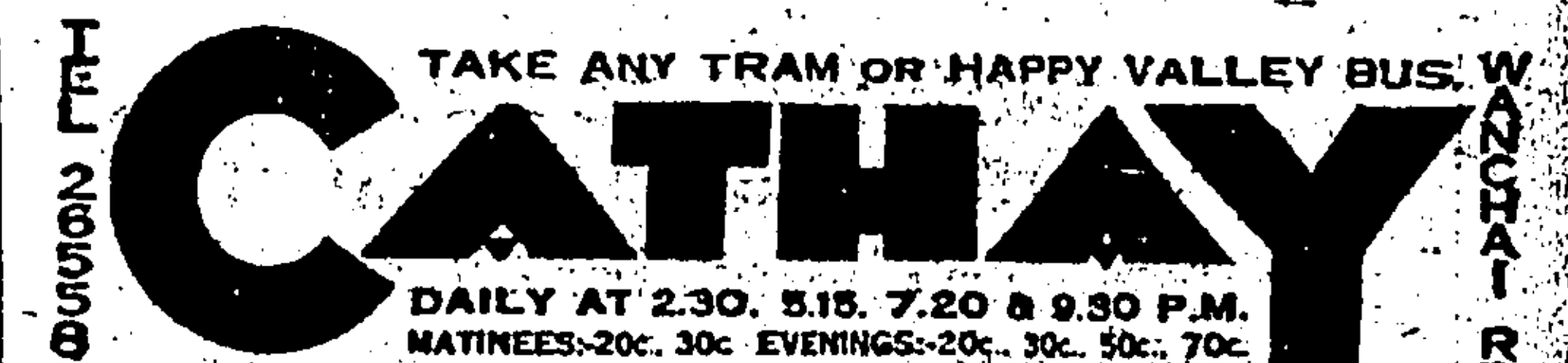


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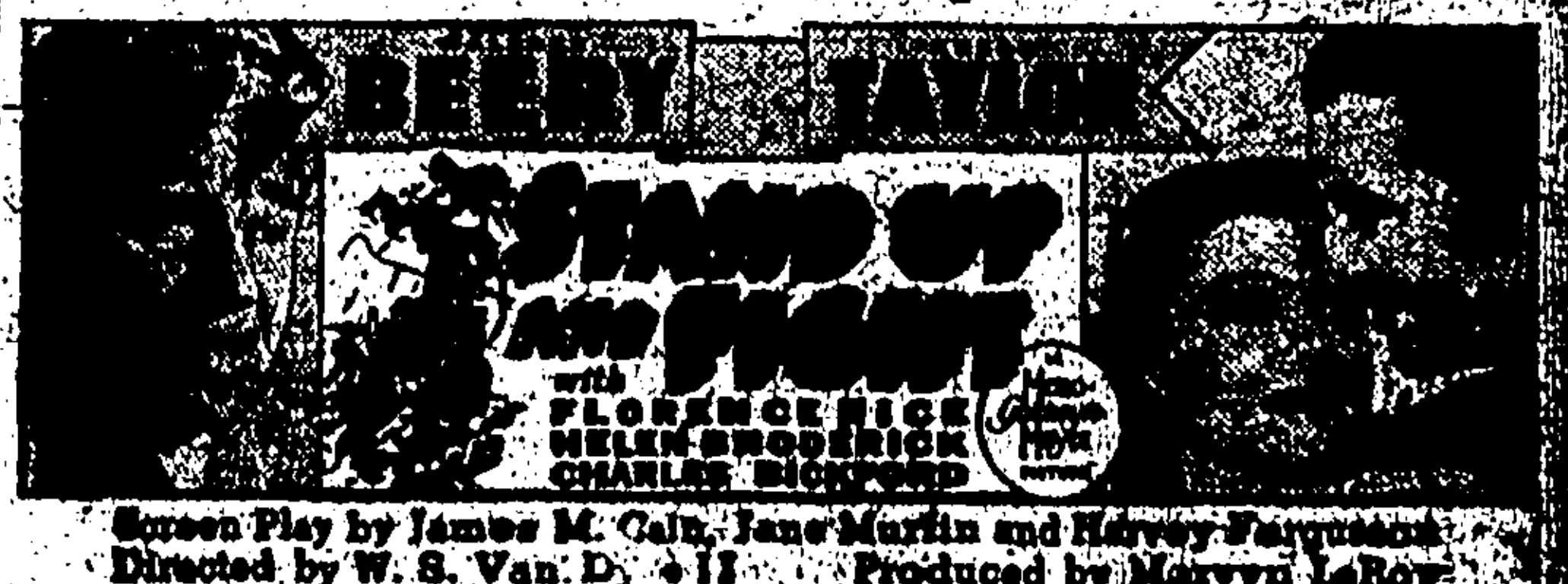
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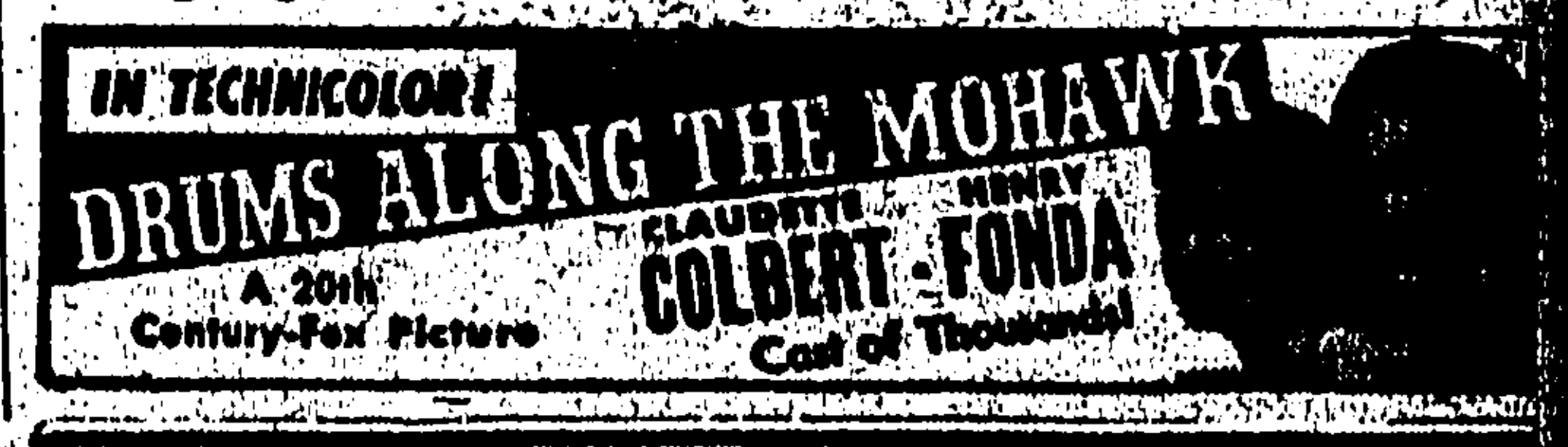
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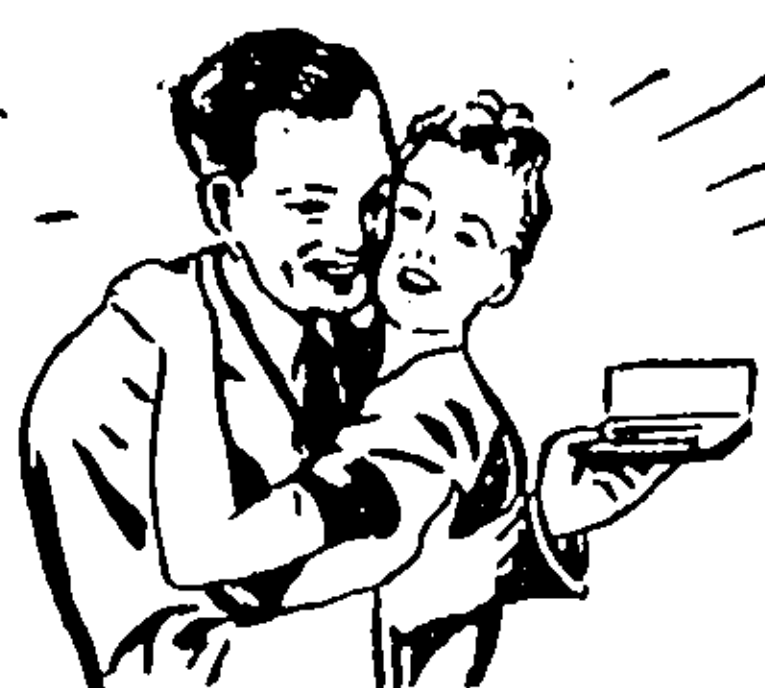
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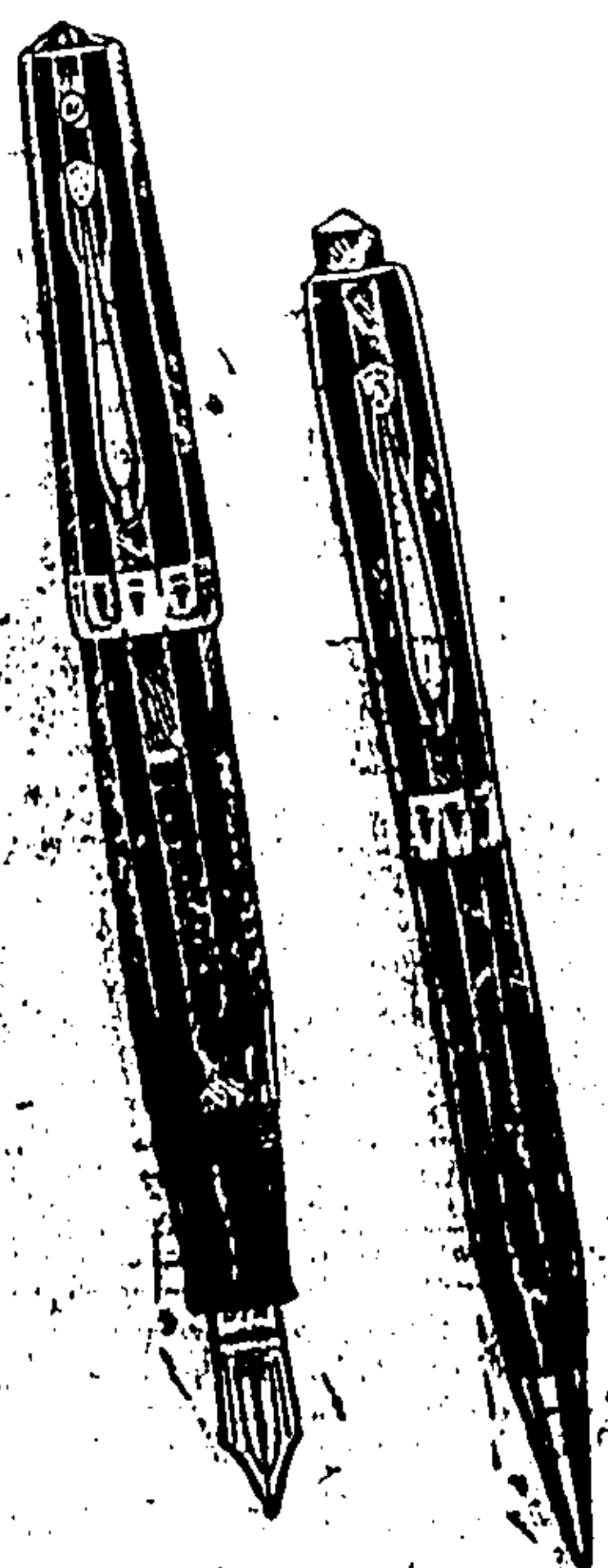


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NAZI SUICIDE SQUAD MEND SHATTERED NERVES IN NORWAY

LARGE NUMBERS of German pilots and air-men are now resting in Norway. They are men who have been bombing London, and according to statements by a man just returned from that country, they are far from a happy band.

"They are known as the Suicide Squad," he said. "A number are pilots who used to fly passenger planes between Germany and London. Few, however, are volunteers. The daylight raids are referred to as 'death trips.'"

The German pilots based in France, Belgium, or Holland, after two or three raids over England, are ordered to fly their machines to airfields in Norway. Even though they fly from a French base on their first raid over England, they do not return to it. They go to a base in another part of France, or to Belgium or Holland.

This is part of the practice carried out by the German High Command to keep the pilots from talking of their experiences or speculating as to losses sustained. "We never know where we are going after a raid over London," one pilot said. "Sometimes we fly under sealed orders, at others a radio message comes through while we are in the air. During raids we have to maintain radio touch with headquarters and report progress."

Although there is no apparent shortage of skilled pilots and crews Germany is now adopting methods of compulsion to obtain pilots. Young officers are taken from cavalry and other regiments and ordered to report for air training.

Recently three young officers of a famous cavalry regiment were ordered to report for training as bomber pilots. The other officers in the mess decided to give a farewell dinner to them. The dinner became known as the "Farewell to the Suicide Squad!"

Result, the organisers were placed under arrest, and all who attended were punished by being sent to danger posts.

Norway to-day is being prepared as the jumping-off ground for intensive raids over Northern England and Scotland in the spring.

Looted Everything

"The Germans," said my informant, "have looted everything and sent great quantities of food into Germany. Meat can be had on only one day a week — if supplies are available. Most of the butchers' shops are closed."

"Civilians are now living mostly on vegetables they have grown themselves."

German propagandists are spreading stories throughout Norway of the imminent collapse of England. A few weeks ago they were saying that invasion was about to begin or had taken place from France and Belgium.

"Actually the Germans transported thousands of troops to Norway to train them for the impending invasion. There were many rehearsals on the coast, the troops being taken to sea in small steamers and fishing craft."

"Many of these troops had never seen the sea, much less experienced its behaviour. They went aboard the vessels full of glee. How different was their return. Some had actually to be carried ashore. They would have been a pretty fine invading army for the British to deal with."

Although the air pilots admit that their losses have been in excess of what the most pessimistic anticipated, they say that there is no real shortage of materials.

30s. WIFE — NO GUARANTEE

A wife, at Bromley, Kent, Matrimonial Court asked her husband, "Did you not offer to sell me for 30s. to a man who called at the door?"

The husband, an aircraftman in the R.A.F., replied, "Yes. But I did not tell him you were worth it."

MAN AND WIFE GET AWARDS

A railwayman and his wife both received from Lord Stamp, chairman of the L.M.S., awards for courage during an air raid.

When German planes made sustained attacks on a depot, Chief Foreman J. H. Taylor returned to duty and took charge of operations until he was exhausted.

Many vehicles and fifty-one horses were saved from being burned largely through assistance fetched by Mrs. Taylor while the raid was in progress.

Chief Foreman Taylor was given the Stamp Medal, which was introduced last January for courage and special devotion to duty, and the company presented Mrs. Taylor with a gold wristlet watch.

Dockgatesman W. J. Mansell has been awarded a bar to the Stamp Medal he won in February for a rescue from drowning.

In darkness, with German planes overhead and amid anti-aircraft gunfire, he dived, fully clothed, into a dock to rescue a colleague.

The lifeline to the first lifebuoy thrown to the drowning man was carried away, and Mansell supported him until a second lifebuoy was thrown.

WORKERS IN GERMANY LIKE SERFS

GERMAN WORKERS ARE REGIMENTED AND HELD AS SERFS BY NAZI FEUDALISM, SAYS DR. LUDWIG HAMBURGER, FORMERLY PROFESSOR OF LABOUR LEGISLATION AT GENEVA, AND NOW ON A VISIT TO U.S.A.

In a survey entitled "How Nazi Germany mobilised and controlled labour," he reveals modern German workers as the industrial equivalent of the medieval bondsman.

"The position of the German worker out-feudalises the Middle Ages," he says. "The German employer, since roughly the end of 1938, has had the right to require a worker to return to a place he has quitted." — Reuter.

GALLANTRY AWARDS FOR BOY SCOUTS

Plucky work during a recent night air-raid has earned certificates of gallantry for Scouts John and Alan Cantillon.

An incendiary bomb penetrated the roof of their home. Hearing his mother's shrieks, John, aged fourteen, ran into her room and found that the bomb had set fire to a bed.

Assisted by his twelve-year-old brother Alan, the put sand on the bomb and, although the raider continued to drop bombs, remained to keep the fire in check until help arrived.

ISOLATED DAYLIGHT AIR RAIDS

Enemy air activity yesterday was confined to attacks by single aircraft at a few points on the East Coast which, it is officially stated, caused little damage and very few casualties. — British Wireless.

LIMPING SPY SOLD RUMANIA

Junkers 87s circled low over the railway station as I left Bucharest after eighteen months in Rumania, writes a correspondent. Two Gestapo agents followed me to the train to see that I went.

I passed Jilava Prison, in whose cells are imprisoned Rumanian Cabinet Ministers now awaiting trial by men who look on murder as an incident. The Rumanian tragedy is complete.

In his rich mansion in Bucharest an aged cripple rubs his hands with pleasure. Clubfoot Conradi, Nazi criminal who enjoyed German Legation protection, brought off the rape of Rumania.

Moonfaced Minister

His right-hand man is the moonfaced German Minister, Fabricius. What Fabricius could not do in the open, Conradi did secretly. It was to Conradi that the Fuehrer cabled praise.

When police visited Conradi's cellars they found no wine — only stacks of Thompson guns and millions of rounds of ammunition. The little cripple blandly explained he was the Rumanian representative of Krupps. These were his business samples.

He was right — his business is death.

Police saluted and withdrew.

This sinister cripple and the German Minister conquered Rumania between them. It fell like a plum into Hitler's hands at a cost of only 2,000 lives — the lives of Rumanian Legionaries, whose organisation they had bought with Nazi gold.

Gestapo Everywhere

Now the Gestapo are everywhere. One of their first acts was the arrest at Brasov of the former Polish Foreign Minister Colonel Beck.

It is they who organised the torture of British oil workers, they who had hundreds of shots fired at apartments of British Legation officials, and who systematically are driving the few remaining Englishmen from Rumania.

The German troops now in occupation are happily gorging. One officer at the Ambassador Hotel ordered and ate two whole chickens himself on arrival. Rumanians have not yet been told that 40,000 hungry German children will be quartered on them for the winter.

Germans Hated

"Before leaving I dined with a great Rumanian industrialist, 'Germany,' he said, 'is moving heavy industry east, away from British bombers. Germany will steal our greatest arm, Malaxa, and make the second Skoda working night and day to feed the German war machine.'"

The mass of the Rumanian people hate the new overlords. But Rumania, in a fantastic atmosphere of hidden death and persecution suffers in silence and shame at the Gestapo occupation.



PERHAPS...

One reaction to the film "The Grapes of Wrath" was a feeling that its tremendous challenge had not been met. "Perhaps there is no solution." Could nobody find an adequate answer to this defeatist doubt? Are the economic factors that drive men, women and children into hunger, slavery and despair, entirely beyond human control? It has been complained that not one Christian has had the courage to say that the solution for the tragic problem depicted in the story of the Joad family was found nearly two thousand years ago. It was enshrined in what that "enemy of all religions," Mr. H. G. Wells, has described as "one of the most revolutionary doctrines that ever stirred and changed human thought." It was "no less than a bold and uncompromising demand for a complete change and cleansing of our struggling race, an utter cleansing, without and within." This simple and profound doctrine of the universal loving Fatherhood of God and the coming of the Kingdom of Heaven swept away all tribal patriotism and lesser loyalties; condemned all private wealth and proud possessions; and sought to set up something in men's hearts that would revolutionise the outer world and make it new. So wrote Mr. Wells in his survey of world history.

It would not be presenting a jarring note for this Christmastide, when half the nations of the world are at war or under the conquerors' heel, to suggest that the thought is specially worth pondering to-day. Many Christians will not accept the Wellsian interpretation of the teaching of Jesus. They may even shudder at the suggestion that the ultimate solution for the modern world's ills must be socialism on a Christian basis. They will remember the saying that no State can exist for twenty-four hours if it is run on the principles of the Sermon on the Mount. And the mention of any "ism" creates a dread of drifting into the damnable materialism of atheistic Communism. They feel it will be safer somehow to go on vaguely hoping for the best, and building visionary new worlds with pious platitudes and magnificent phrases.

The problem for the Western world, if it is

Mr. Winston Churchill, asked about British war aims, has said in effect that we must come closer to winning the war before we can sensibly declare what we intend to do with our victory. This is sound sense, and has been accepted as such by the mass of people of Britain. Those who still grumble at the lack of definition in our war aims are for the most part concerned with the effect of such a declaration upon neutral opinion. Yet here, too, first things must come first, and what the wavering neutrals most want to know is that we can and will win the war. The victories of the Royal Air Force in August and September have done more to rally the neutrals to the Allied cause than could possibly have been done by any manifesto of the rights of man, or covenant of the post-war society of nations.

First Things First

We in the British Empire have always been confident of ultimate victory, because we have always been resolved never to give in. To-day our confidence is more firmly rooted than ever. Yet even we cannot foretell enough of the conditions of victory to be able to fix our war aims, whether for ourselves or for Europe or for the world society of nations, with any definiteness. We do not know who will prove to have been our enemies and who our allies. We do not know what will then be the attitude of the American people towards their responsibilities in establishing and defending a new world order. We do not know where Soviet Russia or Japan will stand—whether perhaps a breakdown of German power in Central and Eastern Europe through a defeat at our hands might not give rise to fresh wars of liberation or of aggrandisement or of ideology in that area.

In brief, though the assumption of victory implies that our power will extend over our enemies, we do not know how much further it would extend, and how far, therefore, we could implement what we might to-day promise as our war aims.

Yet it is not impossible to obtain, if we seek it, a first approximation to our war aims, by striking a rough median between our minimum and our maximum aspirations. Our minimum aspirations have already been declared: in the world at large, to secure against assault by a tyrannous, barbarism the great realm of freedom, co-extensive with the world's oceans, to which we belong; on the continent of Europe, to restore freedom to our allies—Poland, Czechoslovakia, Norway, Holland, Belgium, France. Our maximum aspirations, on the other hand, are those which we would turn into reality if we and those of like mind with us could have the ordering of the whole world under our influence.

What Kind Of International Order?

The minimum implies two things. First, that our power to apply our own decisions will extend at the moment of victory not only over the oceanic area but also over the whole northern and western fringe of Europe, as far as the

truly Christian to-day, is to translate the teaching of Jesus into terms of modern social systems and economic complexities. The solution lies in the literal acceptance of the ancient commandment: "Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." But, before there is sufficient courage to apply the simple solution, we must wait for the miracle of a universal change of heart. Perhaps it will come.

What Shall We Do With Victory?

By Britannicus

also to find some means of securing it for the future.

This means, in turn, that we seek some form of international order and common security which will embrace at least the British Commonwealth and the northern

half of Europe. What kind of international order? In order to answer that question, we must take a look at our maximum aspiration, and make our "first approximation" between the most and the least that we can hope for. Undoubtedly, if we had the ordering of the whole world in our hands, we would establish some system which cut at the roots of national sovereignty. Call this system the super-state, federal union, international government, an international police force, or what you will, it must have two essentials

—power in its hands to deter or quell aggression within or without, and direct responsibility from the authority wielding that power to the representatives of the people.

The difference between the most and the least is wide. It may be a gap in time as well as in scale. The solution may lie in so ordering the least that it leads on to the most. But somewhere, on some medial line, between those two limits lie the war aims which we shall in the end not merely adopt but achieve.

Britain's Anti-Aircraft Gunners

Britain's anti-aircraft gunners came right into the news when the German big-scale raids on England began.

They got the opportunity they had been waiting for with inexhaustible patience for nearly a year.

Nearly all the laurels for bringing down German machines were being collected by the Royal Air Force, although many of their successes were unquestionably due to the cooperation of the searchlights.

This went on week after week, month after month, and the public heard very little about the "ack-ack" boys—as they are affectionately known all over Britain—in spite of the fact that they had been keeping the raiding machines well away from vulnerable spots.

Then came the moment for real action.

It didn't take long for them to show what they were made of and that in spite of lack of actual practice at the shooting of real targets in the heavens they quickly gave convincing proof that their aim was good and that they would provide an important link in the defence of the island fortress from air attack.

Thus it was that when the "targets" were available in the shape of German heavy and light bombers the anti-aircraft guns in a comparatively restricted zone found their mark 57 times in six days.

The highest score in one day was 22. Every battery in Britain is out to beat that score as soon as opportunity occurs.

That they can do the job there

is no doubt, for in the opinion of experts there is no department of military science in which development has been so remarkable as in anti-aircraft gunnery.

This is all the more remarkable since, less than three years ago, Britain had only one 8.7 anti-aircraft gun in the whole of the country.

This type of gun forms the backbone of the island's anti-aircraft defences. There is the more powerful 4.5 gun which is also being used in greater numbers, until to-day the whole of Britain can be said to be bristling with anti-aircraft guns, manned by keyed-up crews eager for a chance to come into action.

It is not easy to imagine the terrific range which the best A.A. guns have, but it serves to illustrate the point that some of the guns could fire their shells at the rate of 12 a minute over the top of Mount Everest—with plenty of room to spare!

Bursting of the shell increases the range by about another 300 yards as metal splinters hurl themselves through the air.

The 4.5 guns are emplaced on fixed mountings, while the 3.7 gun which is the more favoured may be on a mobile or fixed mounting.

In its mobility the anti-aircraft battery finds one of its main advantages, for after an intense action it is possible to pack up and remove to another site so, as one authority puts it, "they may live to shoot another day."

The "ack-ack" men are all specially selected for the important job they have in hand. When the necessity for creating a defence force against air attack became a vital and urgent necessity, it was to the Territorial Army that Great Britain turned.

In the year or so before war broke out, they had been getting accustomed to their new duties.

Since that time the number of batteries has been multiplied enormously and new gun crews trained, but attached to nearly every unit there is a seasoned veteran from the ranks of the former territorial—embodied on the outbreak of war—whose experience and advice has done much to give the gunners that high efficiency which it has been proved they possess.

It has claimed that Britain's anti-aircraft defences are the most up-to-date in the world. There are many factors which go to make them so.

There is, for example, the predictor, "the wonder eye," a delicate instrument that not only calculates the position of a raider but passes information electrically to the anti-aircraft batteries. It is uncanny the way in which it gives height, direction and speed of a raiding aircraft, thus giving the gun all the information it requires.

These are naturally delicate instruments and they need men of the right temperament to operate them. The men have to undergo a series of scientific tests before they are selected for the job. These tests—mainly designed to show whether a man is physically and mentally suited for handling the instruments—were evolved after consultation with a group of psychologists from one of Britain's leading universities.

And now for the first time there is tangible proof of what the A.A. guns can do. There have been numerous occasions when the barrage set up by the guns has been so terrific that German planes attempting to penetrate the defences have been obliged to turn back.

After The War

England, confident of victory though aware of the long and painful road to be traversed to reach it, is already thinking of her post-war problems. She thinks of them as problems of reconstruction, and looking at her damaged cities she naturally plans in terms of building up. Yet, strangely enough, some of the most urgent and difficult problems that will face, not only England, but the whole Commonwealth, after victory is won will be problems of pulling down.

We shall not then be faced with a clean slate on which to write our plans of economic and social reform. In the course of the war a great and revolutionary fabric of economic organisation, at home and internationally, has been set up to cope with the problems of the war itself. It cannot be swept away by a stroke of the pen, nor can we revert by a painless process of smooth demobilisation to conditions as they were before September, 1939. Many of our most formidable and most vital problems of reconstruction emerge directly from a study of our wartime fabric. How much of it is to remain, and by what means is the rest to be demolished or rebuilt?

The State And Industry

At home, the outstanding fact is the diversion to State purposes of an immense portion of the economic effort of the country, both capital and labour, which was formerly conducted by private enterprise under the usual motives of consumers' private preference and producers' private profits. This diversion has been accompanied by the imposition of far-reaching Government control over capital and labour, and by necessary heavy increase of taxation on all classes of the community, especially those in the middle and upper income reaches.

We ought also to recall—for it is vital in considering how much of all this can remain—that much of the diversion has been rendered possible by an immense effort of saving on the part of all classes under the stimulus of a pressing patriotism which is bound to be diminished in time of peace. Virtually all this saving, moreover, has been canalised into Govern-

ment spending, all private forms of capital expansion being suspended; and this, too, is a process which cannot continue indefinitely.

We are, therefore, faced with the certainty that, in default of a complete reconstruction of our financial and economic system, some part of the fraction of the national income now being used by the State for State purposes will return to channels of private enterprise. This is not a change that can be made suddenly or without danger of serious dislocation. We know this all too well from our memories of boom and slump after the last world war. Moreover, we have to consider with all our minds how much of this State controlled effort is to remain in the hands of the State and to what purpose this residue is to be devoted.

Alongside these purely economic problems are vital social problems of town planning, education, family allowances and many others.

International Trade

In international economic affairs, the outstanding problem which will face us after the moment of victory is that of trade in raw materials and essential foodstuffs. At present, this is dominated by three factors: the shortage of shipping, the disappearance of blockaded markets, and the meeting of our essential war requirements by mass buying. In many cases, in order to preserve the economic life of producing countries, raw produce has been bought only in order to be stored, or even destroyed, where the circumstances of war prevent it from being economically shipped and used. Are we, in international as in internal economic affairs, to preserve a portion of this State controlled organisation when other parts of our economic system revert to private enterprise? It seems very likely that the answer is yes.

In the midst of our dangers and our necessary concentration on winning the war, it is not too early for leading minds in the British Commonwealth to be turning to these problems and seeking a solution that will meet the determination of everyone to build better for the future in the interests of the common man.



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COMMUNISTS APPOINTED TO PEOPLE'S COUNCIL

THE TWO MOST PROMINENT Communist leaders are included in the list of 240 councillors of the Second People's Council announced yesterday by the National Government in Chungking.

Among those appointed 90 were chosen from among those who have served for more than three years with government organs, public bodies or private institutes in any of the provinces or municipalities directly under the control of the Executive Yuan, six from Mongolia or Tibet or authorities on the political or social conditions in Mongolia or Tibet, six from among those who have resided overseas more than three years or are authorities on the problems of overseas Chinese and 138 from among those who have served for more than three years in representative cultural and economic bodies or have been long devoted to activities contributory to the national welfare.

EMPIRE AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

The Empire air training scheme in Canada is well ahead of schedule; this was revealed yesterday by Col. J. L. Ralston, Canadian Minister of Defence, who is visiting England for discussions with the Government and military authorities.

In an interview with Reuter Col. Ralston said the air training scheme called for 104 schools and institutions of various sorts by next autumn.

"I am in a position to say that these establishments will be completed six months earlier than the programme."

Canada, he said, would be spending on the scheme three times more than was called for and the number of graduates from air training establishments would be doubled.

United Wholeheartedly

Plans for aerodrome development would be completed before Dec. 31.

The flow of airmen from Canada, compared with what was called for, was most satisfactory.

"I can assure you, as I have assured Mr. Churchill and members of the United Kingdom Government, that Canada is united wholeheartedly—as Canada never was before—in every activity that will help in connection with the war effort."—Reuter.

Making Pledges Good

Canada, said the Minister, is making good all its pledges to Britain in the war effort.

As long ago as October there were 50,000 Canadian soldiers outside Canada and over 100,000 in Canada, and since then there had been a considerable increase.

Factories which have turned to aircraft production are working at full pressure and are turning out types of aeroplanes which are in common use with the R.A.F. and were up to expected numbers.

As for the Canadian Navy, at the outbreak of war there were 1,700 officers in service and two thousands in reserve; by next Spring there will be 23,000 altogether. Six destroyers—part of the fifty the transfer of which was recently arranged—are in the Canadian Navy.

Col. Ralston added that Canada's industries are working at top pressure to provide those vital supplies of equipment and stores which will ease the situation—already being alleviated by Britain's own effort—which faced her after Dunkirk. — Reuter.

Prominent among the councillors are Mr. Chang I-lin, Mr. Chu Fu-cheng, Mr. Mei Kwang-ti, Mr. Li Hsien-keng, Mr. Hu Yo-yu, Mr. Mo Teh-hui, Mr. Wang Chia-chen, Dr. Chen Yu-kuang, Mr. Tao Meng-ha, Mr. Tao Pei-chuan, Mr. Chen Shih-chuan, Dr. Chang Po-ling, Mr. Yang Chen-sheng, Mr. Tan Kah-kee, Mr. Chow Ping-lin, Mr. Tao Hsing-chih, Mr. Yang Jui-liu, Dr. Carson Chang, Mr. Kan Chieh-hao, Mr. Huang Yen-pai, Dr. W. Yen, Mr. Chin Pang-hsien, Mr. Chien Jui-sheng, Mr. Tsou Tao-fen, Dr. Alfred Sao-ke Sze, Mr. Chang Tung-hsun, Mr. Shen Chun-ju, Mr. Y. M. Chien, Mr. Chen Shao-yu, Mr. Han Li-wu, Mr. Lo Lung-chi, Mr. Cheng Hui-meng, Mr. Chang Chung-fu, Mr. Tsou Hsun-sheng, General Mao Tse-tung, Mr. Lin Tzu-hsien, Mr. Chang Shih-chao, Mr. James Yen, Mr. Liang Shih-chiu, Mr. Fu Ssu-nien, Dr. Lo Wen-kan, Mr. Chung Wing-kuang, Mr. Kiang Yung, Mr. Wang Yun-wu, Mr. Chen Po-sheng, Mr. Liang Shu-ming, Mr. Liu Cheh, Dr. Paul Yu Pin, Mr. Aw Boon-haw, Mr. Chang Chi-chun, Dr. Wang Hsiao-lai, Mr. Kiang I-ping, Mr. Tung Kuan-hsien, and Mr. Hsiao I-shan.

Fifteen councillors are women. They are Miss Wu Chih-mei, Miss Lo Heng, Miss Shih Liang, Miss Tao Hsuan, Dr. Wu Yi-fang, Miss Chang Siao-mei, Miss Wang Li-ming, Miss Liu Heng-ching, Miss Liang Chao, Miss Chen Yiyun, Miss Tseng Pao-sun, Miss Chieh Yung-ho, Miss Lu Yun-chang, Miss Chang Wei-chen, and Miss Hsieh Ping-hsin.—Central News.

"UNDERGROUND" NEWS ROUTE

By underground source, the Committee of Union of the French Socialists in Britain have received a manifesto from the French Socialist Party "somewhere in France."

"The Socialists of France," it is stated, "salute with admiration the resistance of the British people, and feel sure that in this they are at one with almost the whole of the French population."

TRIBUTE TO PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT

To congratulate President Roosevelt on his election for a third term, Professor Chang Shu-chi of the Arts Department of the National Central University has made a beautifully embroidered "Picture of a Hundred Birds" for presentation to the U.S. Chief Executive.

In a brief ceremony yesterday, the picture was handed to the American Ambassador to China Mr. Nelson T. Johnson.

More than 100 people were present, among them Sir Archibald Clark Kerr, Dr. H. H. Kung, Dr. Wang Shih-chieh, and Dr. Wang Chung-hui.

The gift will be sent to the United States by air mail.—Central News.



Would you clean your teeth with PUMICE?

You wouldn't dream of cleaning your teeth with pumice stone, because you know its gritty particles would soon destroy the fine enamel. Yet you may even now be using a harsh tooth-cleaner which is just as destructive.

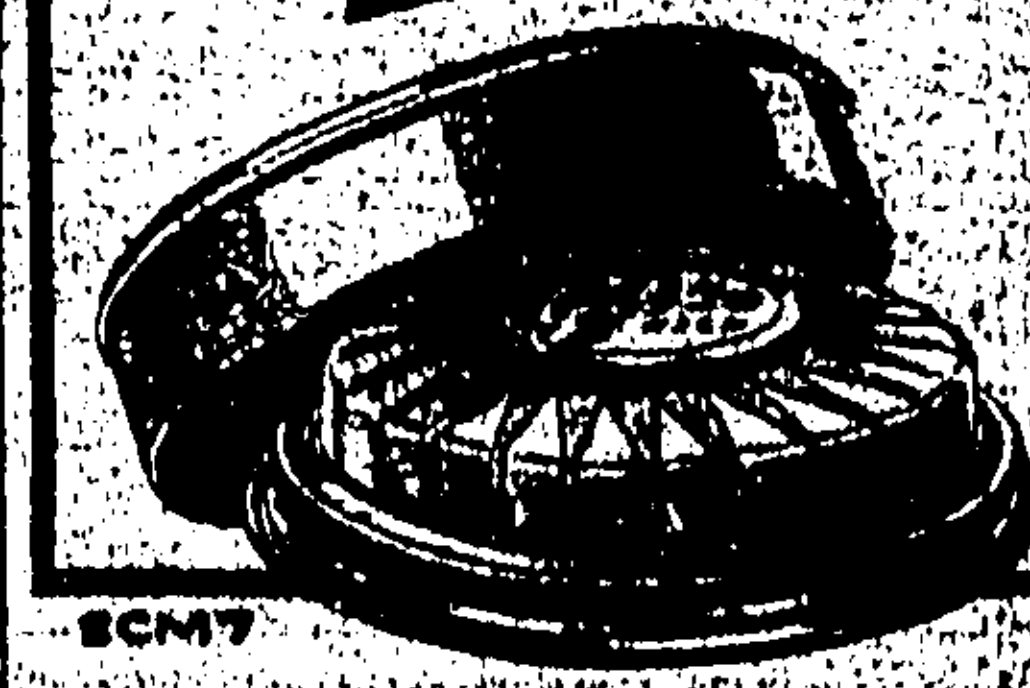
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GREATEST TRAGEDY OF LONDON RAIDS

By HILDE MARCHANT

THE GREATEST BOMBING TRAGEDY IN THE WHOLE OF LONDON HAPPENED ON SUNDAY NIGHT. A BOMB OF TREMENDOUS SIZE HIT A BLOCK OF FLATS, TRAPPING MANY PEOPLE IN THE BASEMENT SHELTER, BURYING THEM UNDER THEIR OWN HOMES.

I looked in this gaping hole in a London street, and thought that, under this heap of rubbish and stone, innocent lives had ended.

Above, a huge automatic excavator was drawing away the wreckage of homes that buried people under the tombstone of their own lives—chairs and pans and blankets, things they had used a few hours before, mixed among the tumbled masonry.

The wardens, stretcher bearers, rescue parties had worked through the night. Every half-hour or so they heard a murmur below, and sometimes they dragged a breath of life from it.

I saw one man being lowered into an ambulance with his leg twisted.

And I was told of a couple who stood weeping on the pavement for their only son—and then suddenly in the darkness a child was put in their arms crying, "Mummy, Daddy."

A doctor crawled through the debris in the early hours of the morning and gave morphia to a woman half-buried. Nurses stood by him and helped the rescue-workers as other people were brought out.

They tended wounds there on the spot, bathing and dressing the injured, though guns were going on around.

The Odd Chance

A child was found wandering over the debris, choked with dirt and falling, not knowing where she was.

A woman came out, dazed, and with her face slashed; she stayed for hours guiding the men working on the debris.

It was a good shelter, reinforced and deep. But with that odd chance of a hundred, the bomb smashed and closed the exits. The water and gas pipes broke.

When the rescue parties arrived they tried to clear the entrances, but as they made a tunnel, masonry collapsed and filled it. They went on digging.

The organisation round this ruin was magnificent. Everything that could help was at hand. The workmen and wardens—the soldiers of London—went on as bombs slapped around them. They worked all through the night raid.

When I arrived, I saw a picture that will stay in my mind all my life. There was a group of men in blue dungarees, standing over a deep hole, tapping the bricks.

They waited in silence. Then some answer came, so they dug again.

They rescued fifty-seven people.

I wondered what sound you would send to show where you were, when your life hung on it. The answer that came was: "We're still breathing."

It was like those hideous nights at a pithead when a murmur from the depths revives the crowd around. The ambulance drew in as the men lifted another living soul from the debris. It was a woman.

Debris On Shelter

A man in the rescue squad wiped plaster out of his eye and took a breath, and said: "I'd like to ring his ruddy neck, only it's too quick a death for him. He'll get worse."

No need to say who the "he" is.

A girl in a Salvation Army canteen made tea for the workers, day and night. She stood in her van on the edge of the pit, as the stretchers passed by, making tea and serving currant buns. I talked to a shelter marshal.

who had been in the adjoining shelter. His people behaved very well. Heavy debris fell on their shelter, but they marched out and went right away, so the rescue workers could have a clear field.

The people who escaped from the flats were greatly shaken, yet one man I met put his wife in another shelter and went off to his job in the afternoon.

"What am I to do?" he said. "I can't help here, and I can help in my job."

I cannot forget what I saw—those men whispering into the ruins. I felt that a new Cenotaph had gone up over the ruins. We shall not forget.

FASCIST FEARS DE GAULLE

Many French Civil Servants, teachers and students are taking part in propaganda in favour of General de Gaulle, according to the former French Communist leader Doriot, who in 1936 joined the Fascists.

He now attacks his former comrades in the "Emancipation Nationale" and expresses fear at their propaganda.

"The Communists and others who during the war favoured pacifism and defeatism suddenly pretend to patriotism and are now wishing to continue the war on the side of De Gaulle," he writes.

"These disguised patriots, in reality Communists, are inventors of the lie that the bourgeoisie wished and caused the defeat of France to establish a Fascist regime."

"Their propaganda is daily increasing and is a national danger as their whispering campaign is to be heard everywhere, finding more believers."

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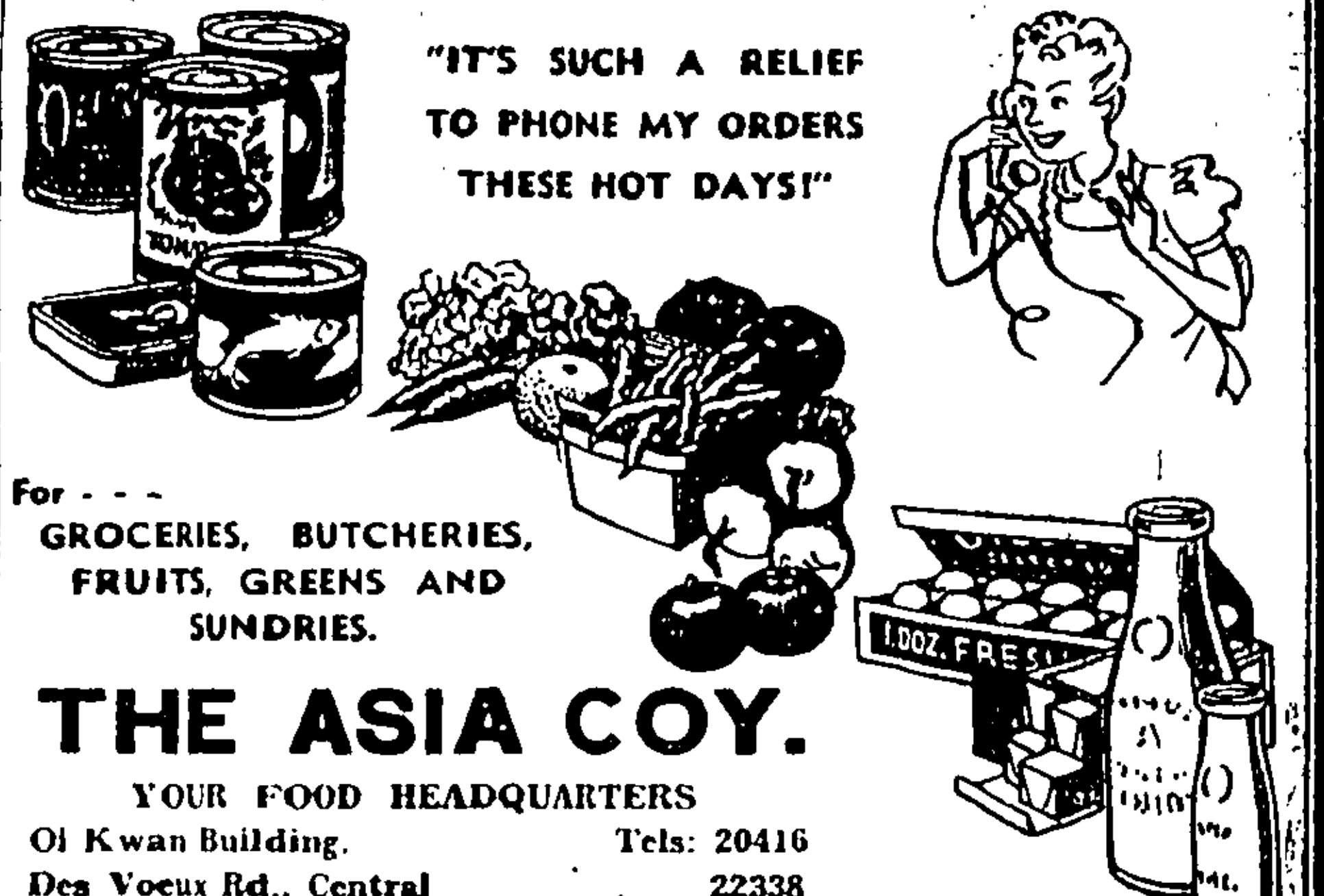
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—WEDNESDAY—

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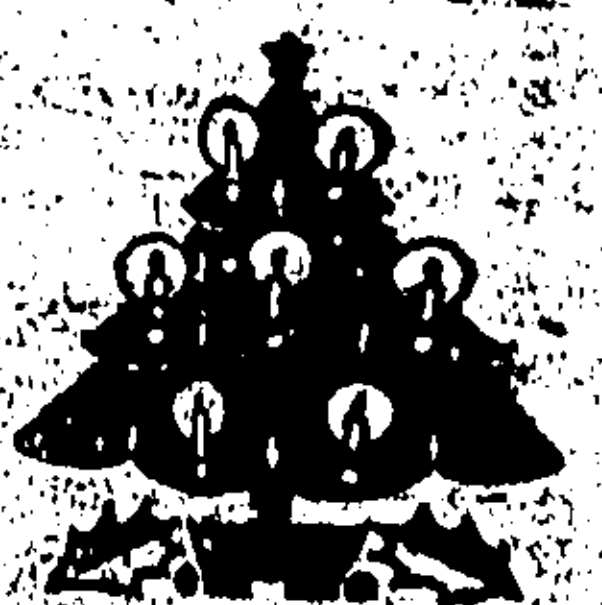
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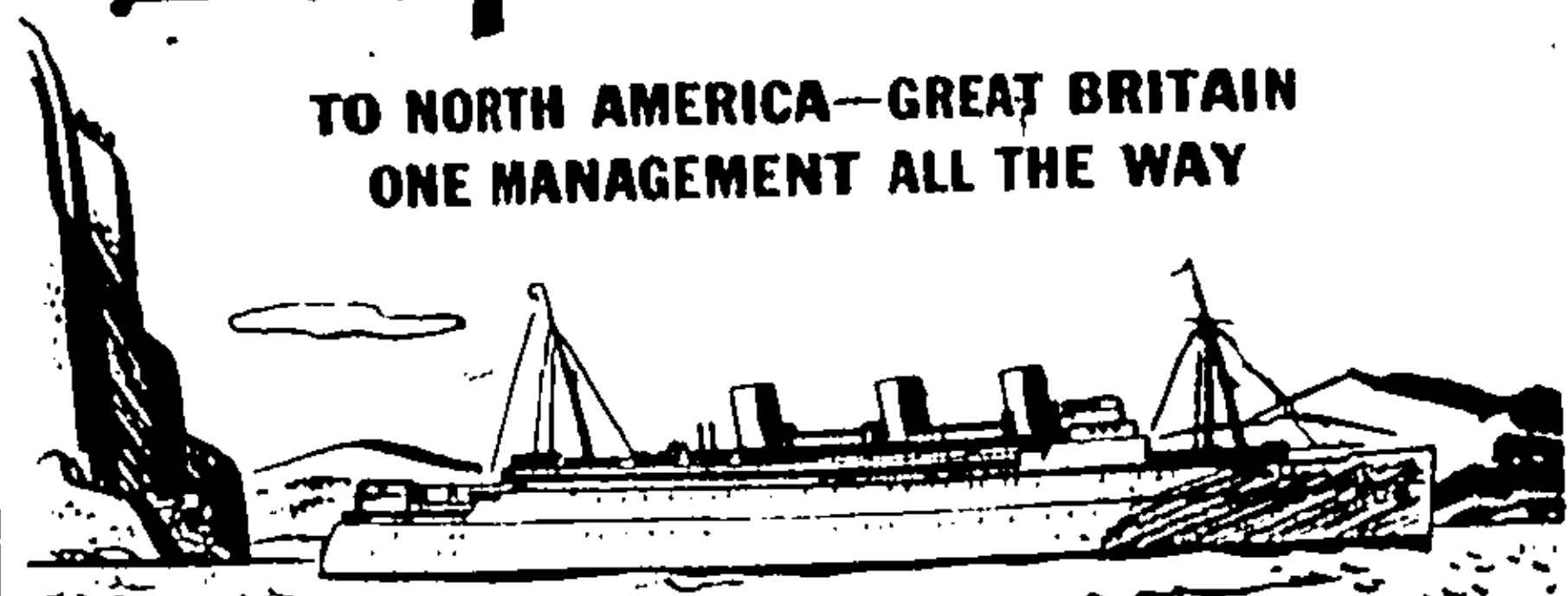
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MAILS

The Parcel Post Service to Canton has been resumed.

Small Packet Post to all countries is suspended.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

On Wednesday, 25th December, and Thursday, 26th December, the General Post Office and Branch Post Offices will be open as follows:

Wednesday, 25th Thursday, 26th
General Post Office
8 a.m. to 10 a.m. 8 a.m. to noon
Kowloon Central P.O.
8 a.m. to 10 a.m. 8 a.m. to noon
Sheungwan Branch P.O.
8 a.m. to 9 a.m. 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.
All other Branch Post Offices and Money Order Office will be entirely closed during the Holidays.

There will be one collection from the pillar boxes each day as on Sundays and one delivery of registered and ordinary correspondence at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, 25th and at 11.30 a.m. on Thursday, the 26th.

There will also be one delivery of ordinary correspondence each day at 11.00 a.m. from the Branch Post Office at Stanley, Taiipo and Un Long.

INWARD MAILS

TUESDAY

Air Mail by "British Overseas Airways Service" by sea from Singapore, London and Straits

WEDNESDAY

Canton
London and Straits

THURSDAY

U.S.A., Honolulu, Japan and Shanghai (San Francisco date, 6th December).
U.S.A., Honolulu and Manila (San Francisco date, 3rd December).

FRIDAY

Air Mail by "Pan-American Airways Direct Service"—San Francisco date, 17th December.
Java and Manila.

SATURDAY

Swatow

FOR DATE & TIME

OUTWARD MAILS

TUESDAY

Straits, Ceylon, India, East and South Africa 3.30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Manila, Batavia and Sourabaya 8.30 a.m.
Canton Noon.

THURSDAY

Air Mail by sea to Singapore to connect with the "British Overseas Airways" K.P.O. & G.P.O.
Reg. 11.30 a.m.
Ord. Noon.

Ceylon, India, Aden and Egypt. Noon.
Straits Noon.

FRIDAY

Sandakan 8.30 a.m.
Straits, Rangoon and Calcutta.
Par. (26) Noon.
Let. (27) 9.30 a.m.

Air Mail by Air to Rangoon to connect with the "British Overseas Airways" K.P.O. & G.P.O.

Reg. 4.00 p.m.
Ord. 4.30 p.m.
Shanghai, Japan, Honolulu, U.S.A., Canada, Central and South America and "United Kingdom via San Francisco"

K.P.O. 4.00 p.m.
Parcels 5.00 p.m.
Reg. 5.30 p.m.
Ord. 5.30 p.m.

G.P.O. 4.00 p.m.
Parcels 5.00 p.m.
Reg. 7.00 p.m.
Ord. 7.00 p.m.

Air Mail for Manila, Guam, Honolulu, U.S.A. and Europe via "Pan-American Airways and Trans-Atlantic Service" (No parcels for Canada and United Kingdom).

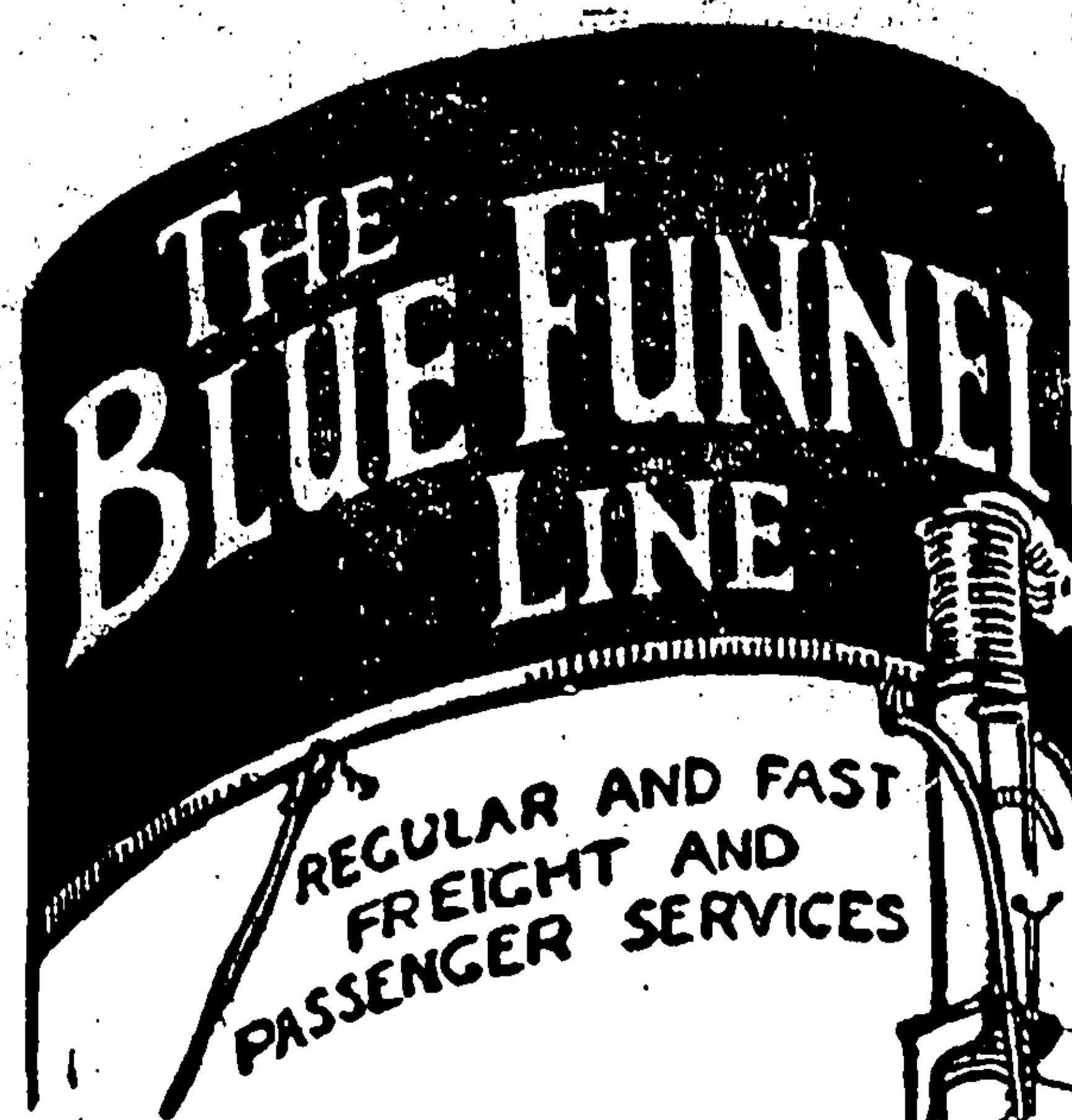
K.P.O. 5.00 p.m.
Reg. 5.30 p.m.
Ord. 5.30 p.m.

G.P.O. 5.00 p.m.
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RADIO

12.30 p.m.—Mantovani and His Orchestra in Dance Music.
1.03 p.m.—London Palladium Orchestra and Miltza Korjus (Soprano).
1.30 p.m.—Reuter and Rugby Press, Weather Forecast and Announcements.
1.45 p.m.—Variety.
2.00 p.m.—Dance Music.
2.15 p.m.—London Relay—The News.
2.30 p.m.—London Relay—Questions of the Hour.
2.45 p.m.—Variety.
3.00 p.m.—Vocal Programmes.
3.20 p.m.—Orchestral Selections.
3.40 p.m.—London Relay—The News and News Commentary.
3.50 p.m.—London Relay—Talk: "Scots Abroad".
4.15 p.m.—Corelli—Concerto Grosso in G Minor ("Christmas Concerto").
4.30 p.m.—Studio—An Abridged Version of Dickens' "Christmas Carol".
4.50 p.m.—Hutchinson—A Noel Fantasy from "A Carol Symphony".
5.10 p.m.—Royal Command Performance.



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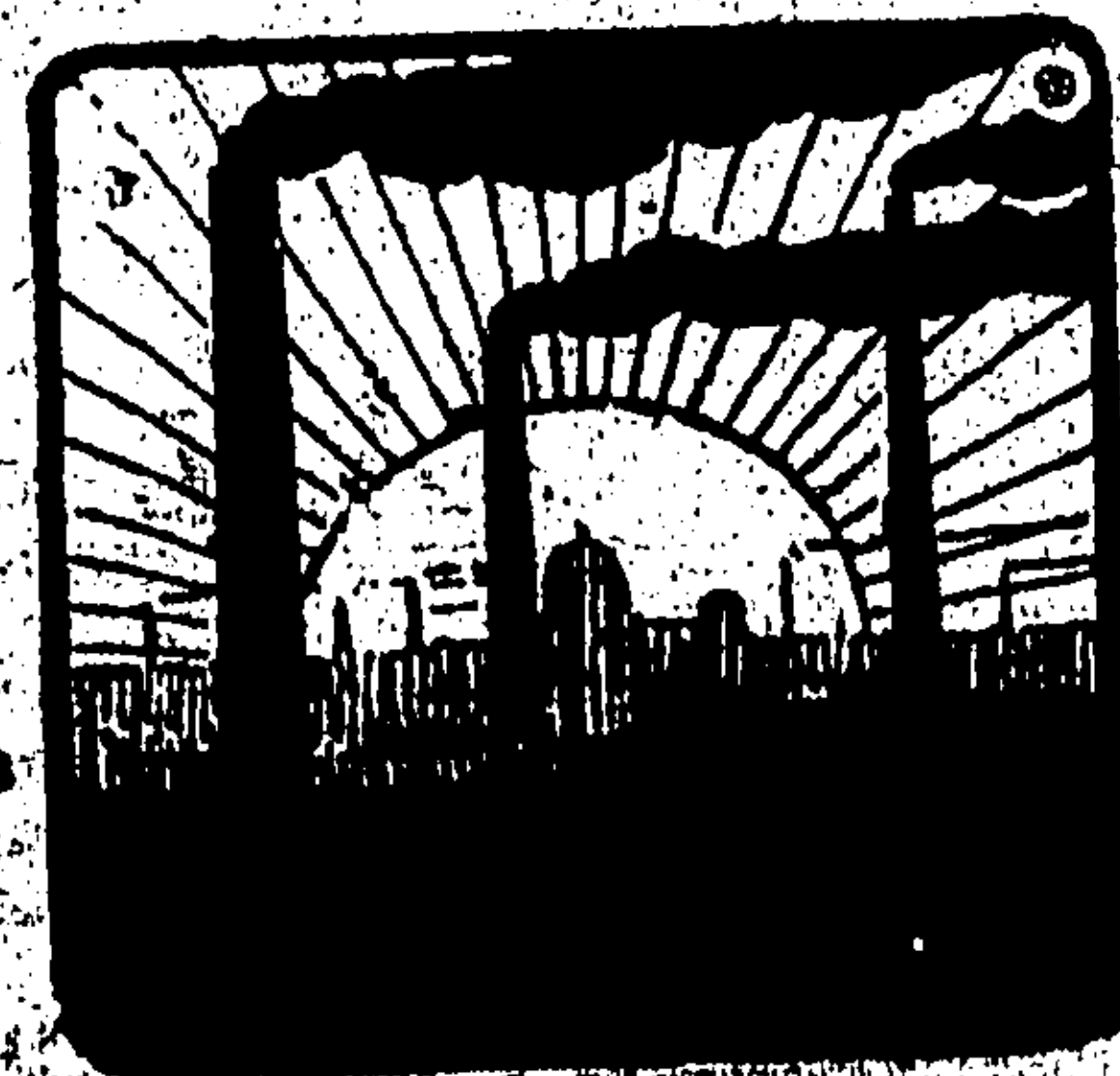
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PARDON ME - SIR - BUT I SAW YOUR CAT CHASING FOUR DOGS AND A POLICEMAN DOWN THE STREET - AND THE CAT HAD ON THE POLICEMAN'S HAT -

10-8

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GOLF STARTING TIMES

Following are Royal Hong Kong Golf Club starting times for Fanning:—

CHRISTMAS DAY Old Course	
9.16 a.m.	R. Young, G. C. Worrall.
9.20 ..	A. Sommerfelt, K. S. Morrison.
9.24 ..	A. M. Mack, L. Goldman.
9.28 ..	I. H. Geare, G. M. Park.
9.32 ..	K. S. Robertson, H. H. Mundy.
9.36 ..	Capt. Thursby, M. S. Banner.
9.40 ..	R. G. Parker, R. M. M. King.
9.44 ..	J. B. Harrison, M. A. Annett.
9.48 ..	A. L. Landsbert, W. Stoker.
9.52 ..	W. A. Stewart, T. Low.
9.56 ..	R. P. Morris, H. A. Mills.
10.00 ..	L. M. S. Lloyd, S. L. Lloyd.
10.04 ..	T. J. Price, G. E. R. Divett.
New Course	
9.24 a.m.	H. N. Williamson, G. R. Horridge.
BOXING DAY Old Course	
9.16 a.m.	A. Pollard, A. H. McBridge.
9.20 ..	F. A. Dinsdale, M. A. Annett.
9.24 ..	D. L. Prophet, Capt. Thursby.
9.28 ..	I. H. Geare, J. A. D. Morrison.
9.32 ..	W. Sharp, J. M. Thomson.
9.36 ..	F. McLeod, J. D. Thomson.
9.40 ..	L. A. R. Duncan, J. Hackney.
9.44 ..	E. G. Price, T. McGarry.
9.48 ..	Major Giles, F. D. Hunter.
9.52 ..	A. M. Mack, R. C. Gairdner.
9.56 ..	Lt. Col. Macpherson, G. W. Reeve.
10.00 ..	W. W. C. Shewan, D. S. Edward.
10.04 ..	R. M. M. King, C. H. D. Curtoys.
New Course	
9.24 a.m.	Mrs. Rowell, J. C. Brown.
10.00 ..	F. A. M. Elliott, E. L. Groome.
10.20 ..	J. C. C. Matthews, R. G. Parker.
10.32 ..	Major Godley, R. D. Gillespie.

THE ROYAL AIR FORCE has probably more famous sporting personalities in their ranks than any of the other services.

They can put football, cricket and rugby teams of international strength into the field; and they have a good sprinkling of leading boxers.

The latest to join the ranks is Ernie Roderick, the Liverpool holder of the British welterweight championship, who has passed his medical and is awaiting his call-up. Other members of the cauliflower-car industry now in the R.A.F. are heavyweight champion Len Harvey, now promoted to Pilot Officer; Eric Boon, lightweight champion; Peter Kane, former bantamweight champion; the three London stars, Kid Berg, Dave Crowley and Jackie Rankin, and Corporal Freddie Mills, the Bournemouth light-heavyweight, who recently beat the reigning middleweight champion, Jack McAvoy.

Awkward Situation

Len Harvey's promotion means that there is the prospect of a N.C.O. fighting a senior officer in public for money. Mills considers himself good enough for a shot at the British cruiserweight title and he has issued a challenge.

This sets a poser for the military powers that be. Normally, officers do not trade punches with other ranks, it being the practice

SUNDAY'S CRICKET CANCELLED

Owing to the fact that a softball game has been arranged for Sunday afternoon, the whole-day cricket match between Recreio and No. 3 (Machine Gun) Company of H.K.V.D.C. has been cancelled.

to divide the classes into separate amateur competitions. But the situation is a little different in this case. Both Harvey and Mills are professionals; fighting is their living.—Reuter.

BASEBALL FIELDING RECORD

Frankie Pytlak, star catcher whom the Cleveland Indians traded to the Boston Red Sox recently, has established a new Major League record for consecutive chances without an error, official American League fielding records released showed.

Pytlak handled 571 chances without errors between September 10, 1938, and September 18, 1940, compared to the former record of 452 chances without an error made by Leo "Gabby" Hartnett, Chicago Cubs long-time ace who moves to the New York Polo Grounds next year as a coach under Manager William "Bill" Terry.

Fielding picked up generally in the American League last season, the field average rising one point. Double plays increased by twelve to 1,195 and there were 22 fewer errors, with a total of 1,443. The New York Yankees and the Indians tied for fielding honours each attaining an average of .975.—United Press.

HOLIDAY SOCCER PROGRAMME

Following is the draw and teams for the Semi-final of the "Sunday Herald" International Charity Cup Competition:

TO-MORROW
Scotland v. China (holders)
(Boundary Street, 3.30 p.m.)

BOXING DAY
Portugal v. England
(Kowloon, 3.30 p.m.)

CHINA—Chung Wing-choy (Sing Tao); Tsang Chung-wan (South China) and Lee Tin-sang (Sing Tao); Soong Ling-sing (Sing Tao); Hsu King-sing (Eastern) and Ng Kee-cheong (Eastern); Chung Yung-sum (Eastern); Fung King-cheong (Sing Tao); Lee Wai-long (South China) (Capt.); Lal Shu-wing (Sing Tao) and Hau Ching-to (Eastern).
Reserves—Lau Hin-hon (Eastern).
Hau Yung-sing (Sing Tao); Tse Kam-hung (South China); Kwok Yung-kee (Sing Tao); Hui Man-fai (Eastern); Chan Tak-fai (South China); Cheuk Shek-kam (Kwong Wah); Lee Shek-yau (South China) and Wong King-cheong (Kwong Wah).

SCOTLAND—Bankier (Royal Scots); Blackburn (Police) and Fraser (Royal Scots); Hutchinson (Kowloon); Falconer (Royal Scots) and Clarke (Royal Scots); Garrie (Royal Scots); Ferrier (Police); Hossack (Royal Scots); Howlett (Police) and Gilroy (Royal Scots).
Reserves—Scott (Club); Gow (Club); Lamb (Kowloon); Naysmith (Royal Scots); Marshall (Royal Scots) and Munro (Royal Scots).

ENGLAND—Robinson (Navy); Roughley (Navy) and Freshwater (Middlesex); Pope (Police); Bright (Middlesex) (Capt.); and Wilkinson (Middlesex); Oomes (Middlesex); Le Page (Navy); Bandy (Navy); Fox (Engineers) and Blackford (Club).
Reserves—Motham (Engineers); Britt (Navy); Parker (Middlesex); Strange (Club); Honeywell (Navy); Thomas (Middlesex); Saw (Middlesex); Barber (Navy); Fowler (Club); and Marable (Middlesex).

PORTUGAL (to be chosen from the following)—U. B. Sousa (International); D. James (St. Joseph's); A. V. Gossano (Kwong Wah); B. T. Gossano (Kwong Wah); C. F. Remedios (Kwong Wah); J. Pereira (Kowloon); D. T. Aguiar (International); V. Marques (International); P. Rocha (International); P. Rocha (International); G. Green (International).
CHINA (to be chosen from the following)—C. Santos (St. Joseph's); J. Gomes (St. Joseph's); D. Alves (St. Joseph's); A. Alves (St. Joseph's); and G. Fernandes (St. Joseph's).

ARMY SPORTLIGHT

By "SQUADRY"

TO-DAY at Sookunpoo, the Middlesex Regiment will play the Combined Small Units in the Area Hockey League for Large Units, bully off 4.30 p.m.

The undermentioned will represent Middlesex:—L/C. Winfield; Pte. Stuckley and L/C. Pain-ting; P.S.M. Ure, Sgt. Crowley and L/Sgt. Waldron; L/C. Moggeridge; Bds. Hymas, L/C. Bright, Pte. Sheehan and Pte. Jackson.

Reserves:—Dr. Klintworth and Pte. Caul. Engineers lost by three goals to one to Recreio in the Hong Kong Hockey League tournament at Sookunpoo on Sunday morning after sharing two goals at the interval, Shaw scoring the Sappers only goal.

In a friendly game at King's Park on Saturday, Royal Corps of Signals lost to Y.M.C.A. by two clear goals. Signals' outstanding players were Price at inside-right, who was prominent both with his individual play and his combination with Spare and Cpl. Blount also did well in the forward-line.

Cpl. Gorman, playing in the pivotal position, was more prominent in the second half; in the first he could not settle down and was wandering too much.

The following are results to date in the Large Units Hockey League:—

FIRST ROUND	
8th Hvy. Regt. 2	12th Hvy. Regt. 2
Punjab Regt. 1	5th A.A. Regt. 1
Middlesex 4	Engineers 1
Combined S.U. 1	Royal Scots 1
SECOND ROUND	
5th A.A. Regt. 1	8th Hvy. Regt. 0
12th Hvy. Regt. 1	Combined S.U. 1
H.K.R.S.A. 2	Punjab Regt. 1
Rajput Regt. 4	Engineers 1
Middlesex 5	Royal Scots 0

LEAGUE TABLE	
	P. W. L. D. Pts.
Middlesex Regt.	2 2 0 0 4
5th A.A. Regt.	2 1 0 1 3
Rajput Regt.	1 1 0 0 2
12th Hvy. Regt.	2 0 0 2 2
Punjab Regt.	2 0 0 2 2
Combined Small Units.	2 0 0 2 2
H.K.R.S.A.	1 0 0 1 1
8th Hvy. Regt.	2 0 1 1 1
Royal Scots	2 0 1 1 1
Engineers	2 0 2 0 0

IT is good to see that three Service players from junior football have been selected to represent the Football Association on New Year's day at Sookunpoo against the Chinese. Two senior players have also been picked.

The following are the Army players selected:—Sgt. Freshwater (Middlesex); Pte. Sheehan (Middlesex); Sgt. Fox (R.E.), and Sgt. Owens (24th R.A.).

Sgt. Owens, who will be playing on the right-wing, gave an excellent performance on Sunday in the Charity matches. He played in both games, owing to the players for the second match not all turning up. He is very speedy on the wing and centres the ball well. He played a great game with Fox, the centre-forward.

THE Middlesex Regiment held their Novices Inter-Company Boxing tournament last week and the finals were held on Friday with "A" Company winning easily, having five men in the finals, and winning the following weights:—Lightweight; Middleweight; Light-Heavyweight; and Welterweight. They also had the runner-up in the Heavyweight.

Lieut. R. W. H. Willoughby, Heavyweight, put up a plucky performance against Pte. Cheny. He was K.O'd in the second round, after being saved by the gong in the first round. He had fought a hard fight the night previous.

Best fight of the evening was between Pte. Byford, "A" Coy., and Pte. Coleman, "H.Q." Coy. Byford won after a very hard fight, and both boxers were congratulated at the end of the fight on a very good performance.

In the final of the Lightweight Pte. Cooper of "A" Coy. knocked out Pte. Roberts of "C" Coy. The Middleweight final was won by Pte. Burdge, "A" Coy., who beat Pte. Hogan, "C" Coy.

Pte. Grafton, "A" Coy. beat Pte. Langdon, "B" Coy. These two were evenly matched and there was not much between them. The Featherweight final was a good fight between Pte. Macey, "C" Coy., and Pte. Hills, "D" Coy., with Macey having a slight advantage in points.

In the Bantamweight final Pte. Winter and Pte. Anderson were evenly matched, and there was not much to choose between them. Anderson winning on points.

A good fight was witnessed in a special contest, Welterweight, between L/C. McGready of the

Royal Scots and Pte. Eaton of the Middlesex Regt. L/C. McGready was the winner on points.

Pte. Noble of "D" Coy, Middlesex beat L/C. Smith, "A" Coy, Middlesex in a special contest in the Lightweight series. Noble is very quick, has good footwork and should do well in the Army Opens.

In the Garrison Billiards Tournaments Pte. Whybro of the R.A.M.C. has the highest breaks in both the billiards and snooker competitions, with 53 for Billiards and 32 for Snooker.

Cpl. Harvey of the Medical Corps completely outplayed Pte. Gordon of the Royal Scots, last year's winner of the Individuals Billiards Championship, last week by 250 points to 171.

The undermentioned are the remaining players left in the Individuals Billiards Championship:—Cpl. Harvey (R.A.M.C.), B.S.M. Rawlings (R.A.), Q.M.S. Wood (R.A.S.C.) and Pte. Whybro (R.A.M.C.).

In the Snooker Individual Championship the following are still interested:—Lieut. M. V. Dixon (R.A.M.C.), Q.M.S. Wood (R.A.S.C.), Cpl. Harvey (R.A.M.C.) and Pte. Milne (Royal Scots).

Cpl. Harvey is the strongest favourite for both competitions and I think that he will pull off the double.

In the League Royal Army Medical Corps have played 14 games and won all.

ANOTHER DEFEAT FOR CHINESE 'Y'

Chinese Y.M.C.A., who last year played off with University for the championship, lost what little chance they had of challenging University "A" again this year when they went down badly to University "B" in "A" Division of the Badminton League last night, by 7-2.

T. T. Chin and F. L. Yung were in great form for the undergratuates to win all three games, and the other two pairs each dropped only one game.

Patrick Wong, three-fold Colony champion, was outclassed and only managed to win one game for Chinese Y.M.C.A.

C. K. Cheuk and K. B. Liu (Univ. "B") lost to P. H. Wong and T. W. Wong.

Beat C. Au and H. Ko. 21-8

beat F. Ko and C. Y. Yung 21-10

S. Amplaivanar and A. P. Lee (Univ. "B")

beat Wong and Wong 21-17

lost to Au and Ko 17-21

beat Ko and Yung 21-12

T. T. Chin and F. L. Yung (Univ. "B")

beat Wong and Wong 21-5

beat Au and Ko 21-12

beat Ko and Yung 21-14

C.C.C. BOXING DAY MATCH

The following are the teams for the Married v. Single Cricket match at Craigengower Cricket Club on Boxing Day at 11.00 a.m.

Married:—E. Zimmermann (Capt.), W. K. Way, T. Lock, J. L. Young, S. W. Waller, U. H. Esmail, A. B. Hamson, A. K. Ismail, B. R. Francis, J. W. Leonard, C. W. Lam, G. H. A. Morris, G. Tanner and W. Hong Sling.

Single:—G. Souza (Capt.), A. M. Omar, A. J. Ruse, Ramchand, P. J. Billimoria, T. H. Edgar, J. Lodge, S. Leonard, E. H. Esmail, G. Ladd, S. R. Solins, A. Hung, N. Broadbridge and L. Choa.

There will be a tea dance immediately after the match.

B. Agarwal, who bought Grand Alliance, the 1940 Australian pony at the roup held in the Jockey Club paddock on Thursday, intends sending it to Fanning for a prolonged run.

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BRITISH SPORTSMEN KILLED IN SERVICES

RUGBY PLAYERS once again figure prominently in the latest lists of war casualties, as many as five prominent players having been killed.

The game has lost a brilliant young centre three-quarter in Lieut. John Harrison, of the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, whose death from wounds has been reported. Harrison was with the late Prince Obolensky, the England and Oxford wing three-quarter, in the Trent College team, which in 1933-34, scored 539 points against 22.

After leaving school Harrison captained Sandhurst and played for Surrey before joining the Army. His Services Rugby attracted the England selectors, and he was chosen as reserve centre for England. He also played for Rosslyn Park.

Another former captain of the Rugby XV at Sandhurst, 2nd-Lieut. M. G. Johnson, M.C., has recently been reported killed by enemy action. He captained Sandhurst three years ago.

Acting Squadron-Leader Michael Fitzwilliam Peacock, the Oxford Rugby Blue and former Richmond captain, who was reported missing is now believed to have been killed in action in the Arras-Cambrai sector in May. He was awarded the D.F.C. in February.

Accidental Death

Lieut.-Col. H. Greenwood, whose death at Wantage Cottage Hospital, Berkshire, following an accident, is announced, was a member of the Leicestershire and East Midlands XV which defeated the South Africans at Leicester in the 1931-32 season. He played in an England trial while assisting Leicester and also played for Bedford, his native town. He volunteered for the R.A.S.C. at the outbreak of the war.

Another well-known player to Rugby followers to die as the result of an accident is B. H. Cattell, who was knocked down by a motor car and killed near Coventry, when on duty as a special constable. In his younger days he was on the verge of international honours as a forward of the robust type, and once chosen as reserve for England. For years he played for Moseley, then at the height of their power, and for the Midland Counties.

He was a brother of R. H. Cattell, the Oxford and England scrum half-back, and until three years ago practised as an auctioneer at Rugby.

Other Sportsmen

Other sportsmen who have been reported killed recently are—

Lieut. Peter Eckersley, R.N.V.R. (Air Division), the Lancashire cricketer, who has been killed in action. Six years he led the Lancashire Eleven, one season to the County Championship. He toured with the M.C.C. in India in 1926, and with Lionel Tennyson's side in the West Indies two years later. In 1936 he was elected to the M.C.C. Committee, following his decision the previous season to give up active cricket.

Lieut. M. D. P. Magill (Royal Berkshire Regiment), reported killed in action, was regarded as one of the finest Oxford cricketers ever to get a blue. He went to the university after two years at Eton, and played two matches for the Dark Blues. While at Eton he captained the Rugby XV.

Eton Captains Killed

It is announced by the college authorities that two other former captains of sport at Eton have been killed on active service.

They are J.F.B. Bougley, captain of cricket in 1938; a second lieutenant in the Coldstream Guards, and B. M. Fisher, captain of cricket in 1935, Pilot-Officer in the R.A.F.V.R.

Pilot-Officer G. T. N. Mitchell, recently reported killed in action secured his hockey blue for Cambridge. He was also a Scottish international.

Six Service footballers on the League club lists when war began have lost their lives. They are: Tom Cooper (Liverpool and England right back); Robert Gordon (Huddersfield Town right half-back); Joe Carr (Sheffield United back); Frank Casperson (Manchester United inside-left); Stanley Docking (Barnsley inside-left); and Grayville Roberts (Nottingham Forest inside-right). Ernest Bell (Aldershot inside-forward) is reported missing in France.

W. T. Whewell, who was formerly captain of England

amateur soccer team and a well-known Corinthian footballer, was killed with his wife when their house received a direct hit during a recent air raid over the South of England.

He played for England at centre-half against Scotland, Ireland and Wales. He also played for English teams in Germany, Holland and Switzerland. He was a Cambridge football blue and also played for Cambridge in minor counties cricket.

Prisoners Of War

A number of sportsmen who had been reported missing are now officially reported to be prisoners of war. The best known are:—Maj. William Eldon Tucker, R.A.M.C., the English rugby international and Cambridge blue.

Capt. J. W. G. Hume, Lothians and Border Yeomanry, the Scottish rugby international and Oxford blue.

Lieut. J. W. S. Irwin, R.A.M.C. the Irish International rugby forward.

Cpl. W. R. C. Brydon, Scottish international rugby player.

NO SOCCER INTERPORT

Word has been received that Shanghai Football Association are definitely unable to send a team to Hong Kong for the Interport game during Chinese New Year.

Several causes contributed to their decision, among these being, the difficulty of their players, most of whom are Volunteers, obtaining leave; the uncertainty of sailing dates between the two ports and their probable inability to raise a representative side, in view of the departure of the British troops.

Lieut.-Col. Guy J. German, who obtained his rugby blue at Oxford in 1922.

Capt. Jack Fawcus, the prominent steeplechase jockey Lieut.-Sergeant W. Roberts, the Newport County and former Bristol City full-back.

Basil Rought-Rought, the Norfolk opening batsman.

B. J. Wood, the Norfolk wicket-keeper.—Reuter.

FROM HERE AND THERE

TOM PILE AGAIN BEATS CHRIS IN SNOOKER FINAL

Tom Pile beat his brother Chris, in the Final of the Snooker Handicap at the Prison Officers' Club, Stanley, last week. It is interesting to note that they were both minus 56. Earlier in the month they met in the Final of the Championship, which the former also won.

Dr. D. J. Valentini, who was seen in the full-back position for the Hospital Division against the Health Division in the charity football match yesterday last played football in 1928-29, when he turned out for the Police R.C. Incidentally, T. Pile, who was also a member of the Police team that year, figured at right-wing, also for the Hospital side.

Choy Wing-chiu, formerly one of the finest badminton players in the Colony, has been unable to turn out hitherto this season on account of an injury sustained when roller-skating.

It is learned that G. R. Razavet, the Hong Kong Cricket Club lawn bowler, will be leaving the Colony on transfer shortly.

Lieut. Cuthbertson, of Royal Scots, is making a rapid recovery from the broken arm which he sustained in a recent Rugby match.

George Duncan, Hong Kong Football Club and Colony Interport lawn bowler, will be leaving the Colony in the course of the next few days for a six months holiday in Australia. Duncan is looking forward to this as he will

NO HOCKEY ON SUNDAY

Owing to the Christmas and New Year festivities Hong Kong Hockey Association have decided to cancel all Tournament matches fixed for Sunday.

be in Australia for the lawn bowls season and hopes to get quite a number of games in Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne.

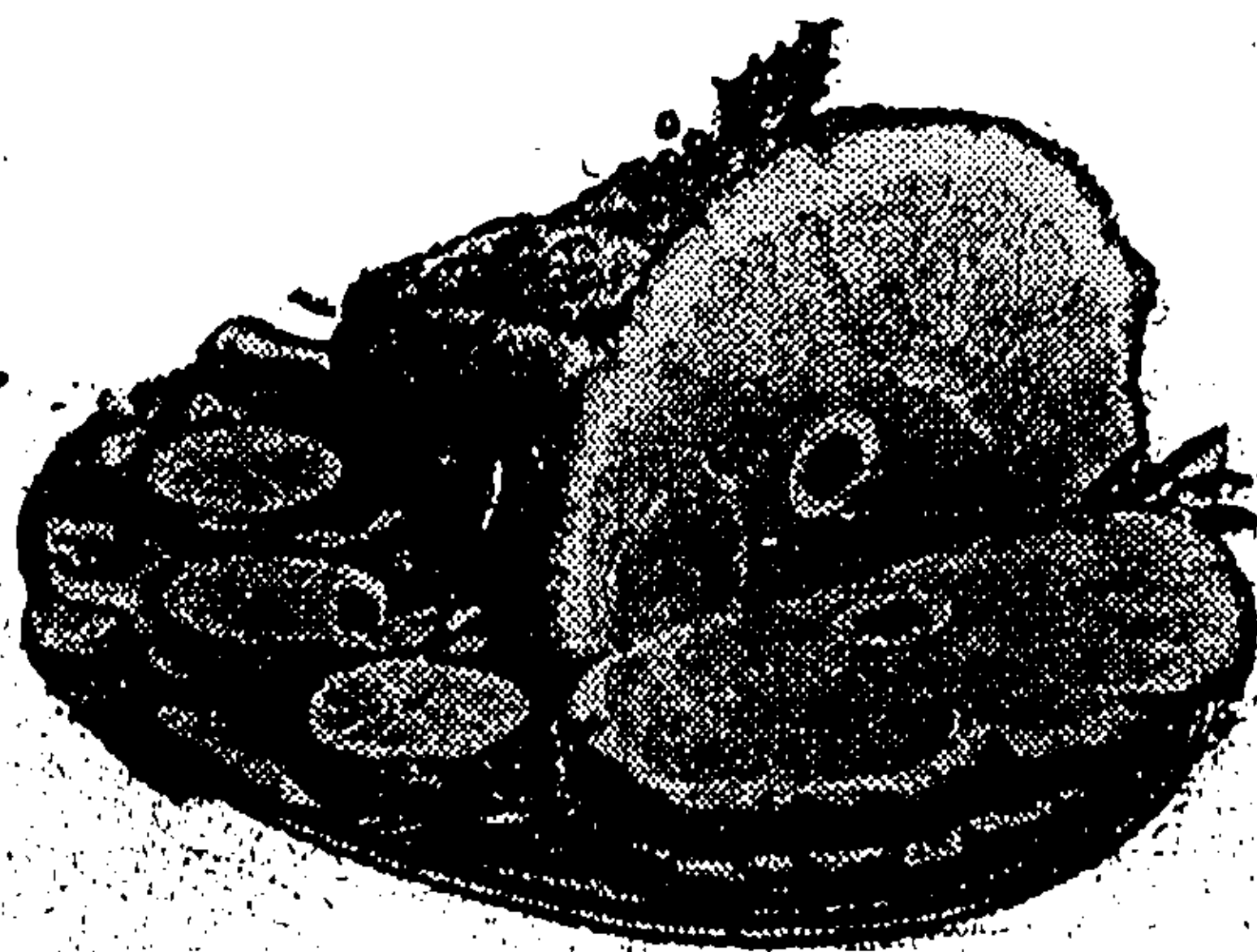
A very enjoyable evening was spent by members of the Prison Officers' Club on Thursday when the first of the monthly "Evo Nights" was held. Spoons for billiards, snooker and darts were presented by Evo Breweries Ltd., and these were won by C. Gowland, F. N. Hill and J. Marvin respectively.

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GREEK CHIMARRA TRIUMPH

Flags will be flown for three days in Greece in celebration of the capture of Cimarre (Chimarra), the fall of which has been officially announced in Athens.

Amongst the latest prisoners to be taken by the Greeks are 30 officers and 800 men composing the 153rd Battalion of Black-shirts; these troops arrived in Albania a fortnight ago.

The capture of Cimarre was achieved despite very bad weather, which slowed up the Greek advance, and has taken the Greeks along the coastal road to Valona.

Those Italians who escaped from the city will have to repeat what happened when Santi Quaranta fell — they will have to fight a desperate rear-guard action in an attempt to hold up the Greeks.

Heavy fighting is continuing in the Tepelini sector, where the Alpini divisions have suffered another defeat and enabled the Greeks to take more villages and strategic heights. — Reuter.

ARTILLERYMEN FROM N'F'LAND

ANOTHER CONTINGENT OF NEWFOUNDLAND ARTILLERY REACHED A BRITISH WEST COAST PORT YESTERDAY.

The contingent was welcomed by the Trade Commissioner for Newfoundland. — Reuter.

Dramatic Revelations In London

"I HAVE GOOD reason for believing that ex-King Carol's life is actually endangered; he is detained in the Andalusian Hotel at Seville by the order of Serrano Suner, Spanish Minister of Interior, acting under pressure from Berlin — he cannot move or make any plans."

This dramatic statement was made to Reuter last night by the former Rumanian Minister in London, M. V. V. Tilea, now leader of the Free Rumania movement.

"I want to make it clear," declared M. Tilea, "that the Free Rumania movement does not propose to have anything to do with ex-King Carol, and I am not in direct touch with him, but my information comes from a reliable source and I feel a protest against this totally unjustified treatment of a private individual is urgently called for."

"Senor Suner has Carol to thank for his life in the Spanish Civil War, because he was given refuge in the Rumanian Legation in Madrid, and Carol refused to give him up despite tremendous pressure from Barcelona."

No Just Reason

"If Carol had given way Suner would certainly have met his death then."

"There is no just reason for not allowing Carol to go. He has given his word not to

mix in politics for the duration of the war but the Spanish Government refuses to let him move." — Reuter.

ARMY PART IN FINAL RECKONING

In the final reckoning with Hitler the Army will have a decisive part to play, Mr. Anthony Eden declared yesterday in a message to General Sir John Dill, Chief of the Imperial General Staff, on leaving the War Office to assume the Foreign Secretaryship.

To all ranks, Mr. Eden expressed deep gratitude for their loyal, cheerful and unflinching help during a period which had no parallel in history.

Referring to the Egyptian campaign, Mr. Eden declared the Army of the Nile's brilliant victory was the first reward of much patient effort, no less than of dash and daring.

The quality of the Army of the Middle East to command success had been proved in Africa, as one day it would be proved in Europe. — Reuter.

BRITISH WAR PLANS

"I CAN ASSURE YOU AS I HAVE ASSURED MR. CHURCHILL THAT CANADA IS UNITED AS NEVER BEFORE IN EVERY ACTIVITY THAT WILL HELP THE WAR EFFORT," SAID THE CANADIAN DEFENCE MINISTER YESTERDAY. HE IS ON A SHORT VISIT TO BRITAIN.

His mission, he said, is to learn the conditions under which the Battle of Britain is being fought and to discuss with the Canadian Commander-in-Chief details of the administration and training of the Canadian troops, and particularly cooperation with the forces of the United Kingdom.

He has consulted members of the Government of the United Kingdom about British war plans, both present and future. — Reuter.

MARSHAL PETAIN REJECTS NAZI DEMANDS

(Continued from Page 11) shows that the temperature has gone down although the patient's condition is still grave.

The correspondent adds that although the German reply is still awaited, Marshal Petain's Note is believed to have had a favourable reception.

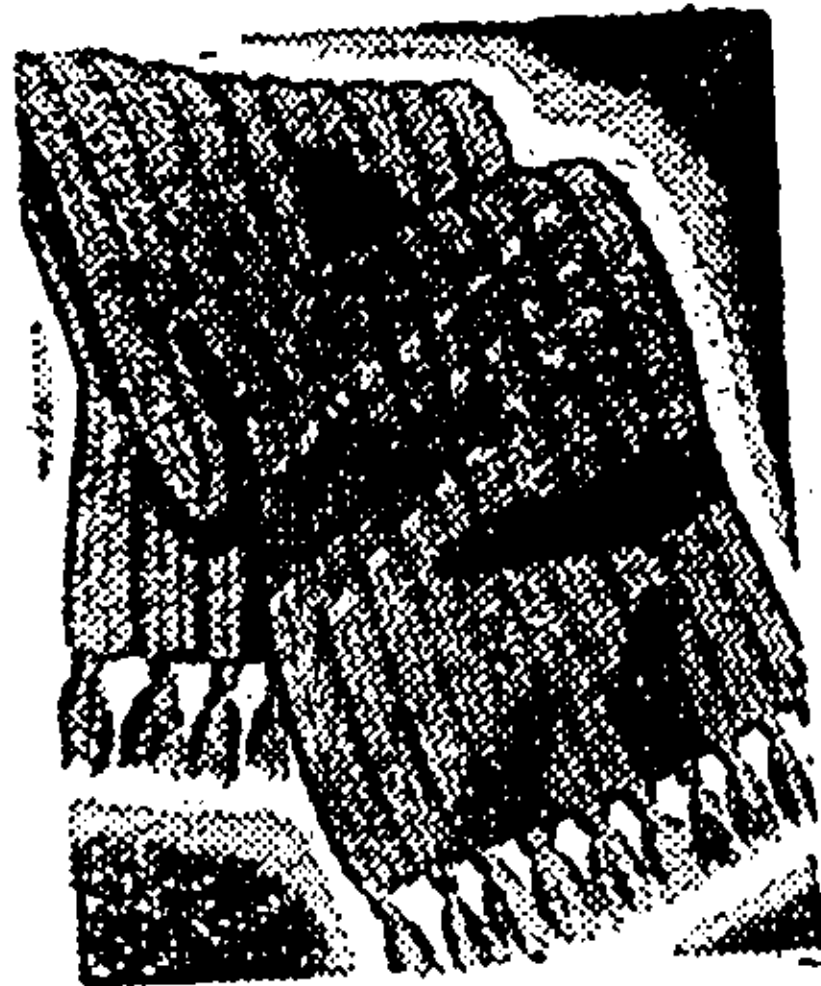
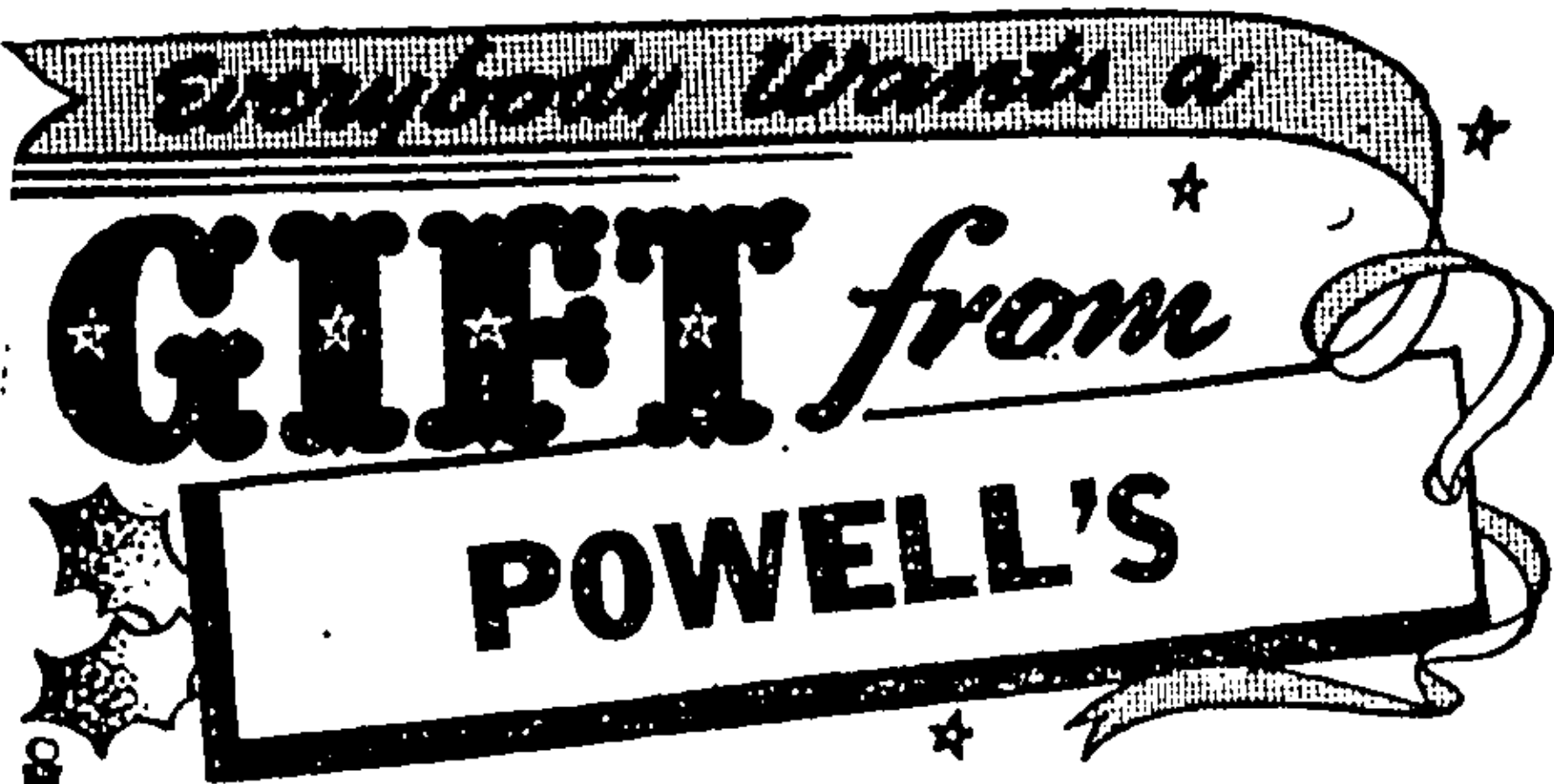
When the Foreign Minister received a series of visitors in Vichy he gave an impression of optimism. — Reuter.

STOP PRESS

TWO NAZI BOMBERS DESTROYED

It is now known that two enemy aircraft were destroyed by A.A. fire over Merseyside on the night of December 21/22. — British Wireless.

The prefix "special" to telegrams is used by the "Sunday Herald" and "China Mail" to indicate news which is strictly copyright under the provisions of the Telecommunications Ordinance, 1936, and may not be reprinted under any circumstances, either wholly or in part, without prior arrangement.



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HANDS OFF U.S. OIL IN RUMANIA

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

The United States has initiated a diplomatic move to keep German hands off American-owned oil properties in Rumania and to balk any sale of expropriated Mexican oil to Germany.

It was disclosed in Washington yesterday that at the request of the Standard Oil Company, the State Department is studying legal grounds for a protest to Rumania against the expropriation of the \$1,000,000 pipeline stands wholly owned by the Standard Oil subsidiary, Romano-American.

OILMEN ALSO SAID YESTERDAY THAT MR. HENRY A. WALLACE, THE VICE-PRESIDENT ELECT, WHEN HE VISITED MEXICO CITY FOR THE INAUGURATION OF PRESIDENT CAMACHO, DEVELOPED AN AGREEMENT FOR A FRESH EFFORT TO NEGOTIATE A PRIVATE SETTLEMENT OF THE \$400,000,000 EXPROPRIATION DISPUTE BETWEEN MEXICO AND BRITISH AND AMERICAN OIL INTERESTS. — INTERNATIONAL NEWS SERVICE.

MANCHESTER CASUALTIES NOT GREAT

The number of fatal casualties in the raid on Manchester on Sunday night is comparatively small in view of the severity of the attack, it was stated in London last night, says Reuter.

TASS DENIAL

THE OFFICIAL TASS AGENCY IN MOSCOW YESTERDAY ISSUED A DENIAL OF A REPORT PUBLISHED IN AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS THAT THE CHINESE ARMY IS RECEIVING LARGE QUANTITIES OF WAR MATERIAL, MATERIAL, MEDICAMENTS AND OTHER SUPPLIES VIA VLADIVOSTOK.

Tass also denied a report that an American military officer will shortly go to Vladivostok to speed up the transportation of war material to China.

The agency says: "This report is fabricated from beginning to end." — Reuter.

Adjustments To "New Situation"

(Written expressly for International News and the "Yomiuri Shimbun" of Tokyo by Vice-Admiral Kichisaburo Nomura, new Japanese Ambassador-Designate to the United States).

TWENTY YEARS AGO I WAS STATIONED IN WASHINGTON. I CAN SCARCELY REALISE THE GREAT CHANGES THAT HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN AMERICA.

Changes have occurred everywhere; in fact, even now the world is undergoing such stupendous changes that are bound to make a new page in the history of mankind.

Such changes are inevitable and irresistible. All nations must adjust themselves to the new situation.

Japanese-American relations also will have to be regulated in accordance with the changing times. Recent relations between Japan and America admittedly have been bad.

This is not the time to get excited. This is not the time to find fault and exchange harsh words with one another. Mutual recrimination will not help us outside the storm.

What Is Needed

What is needed is a dispassionate attitude together with calm judgment and willingness to face the facts and deal with the realities of the situation in practical fashion.

As long as Japan and America do not lose sight of these essential points, I believe nothing will lead to a disturbance of future relations between our two countries.

True the long history of friendly intercourse has been occasionally troubled, but never before has arisen such a situation as exists to-day between our countries.

Bad Weather

According to my experiences as a sailor it is not unusual now and then in the course of a voyage for a ship to encounter bad weather.

On such an occasion the skipper must keep his head. He must go about in a businesslike way closing hatches and scuttles and fixing things properly in their places. Above all, he must steer calmly through the storm.

What is required in Japan and America at this critical juncture is something of the quality of a master mariner.

BOMBS DROPPED IN ULSTER

The dropping of bombs in Northern Ireland was announced in an official statement by the Northern Ireland Ministry of Public Security yesterday.

The statement says: "On several occasions during the past week enemy aircraft have been identified operating over Northern Ireland.

"Bombs have been dropped, all of which fell in open country. No damage was caused and there were no casualties." — Reuter.

Dec. '31 is said to be receding. It is also learned that the present negotiations are not even for a permanent pact, as provided in the present modus vivendi, but only for an extension of the existing arrangement. — Reuter.

WASTES OF FLAME SPREAD OVER MANNHEIM AREA

SPREADING WASTES OF FLAME WERE SEEN BY R.A.F. PILOTS AFTER DROPPING THEIR BOMBS IN SUNDAY NIGHT'S RAID ON MANNHEIM.

Most damage was done in the neighbourhood of the main railway station and on the Ludwigshafen side of the Rhine.

The raid was the seventh on Mannheim since the beginning of December.

It is already known from sources other than reports of British pilots that great damage was done in earlier raids, which

WEATHER FORECAST: — East and north-east winds, moderate, freshening; overcast, some drizzle or light rain, cooler.

were by no means the most severe.

The Rhine harbour was hit and barges sunk, and it is revealed that the traffic which helps give Mannheim its position as the most important industrial centre in south-west Germany was seriously impeded.

Mannheim is also a vital railway junction, and traffic to France had to be diverted to another and less satisfactory line. — Reuter.

SOVIET STICKY ON FISHERIES

IT WAS UNDERSTOOD FROM OFFICIAL SOURCES IN TOKYO YESTERDAY THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN JAPAN AND SOVIET RUSSIA FOR A FISHERIES AGREEMENT ARE MEETING WITH DIFFICULTIES.

For this reason the Japanese hope of replacing the temporary treaty before its expiration on

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MARSHAL PETAIN REJECTS NAZI DEMANDS

HALIFAX ASSURED OF WELCOME

The appointment of Lord Halifax as British Ambassador to the United States is highly welcomed by the United States Government.

Mr. Cordell Hull, Secretary of State, has issued a statement to this effect, adding that Lord Halifax's record was such as to commend him to the United States as Ambassador.

Mr. Cordell Hull states he looks forward with pleasure to working with Lord Halifax. — Reuter.

TWO NAZI BOMBERS DESTROYED

It is now known that two enemy aircraft were destroyed by A.A. fire over Merseyside on the night of December 21/22. — British Wireless.

IMMIGRATION PETITION REJECTED

The Chinese Chamber of Commerce petition for postponement of the enforcement of the Immigration Ordinance to February 15, 1941, has been rejected.

The Ordinance will be enforced on January 14, 1941.

SAIGON REPORT (SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Report received in Kwong Chow Wan last night hint that the French Indo-China authorities have given the Japanese permission to land marines in Saigon. There is no confirmation. — Our Own Correspondent.

But Fears Of Blitz Action Against Vichy Diminish

LAPSE OF MEMORY

Mr. R. E. M. Des Voeux, of the Far East Oxygen and Acetylene Company. To Kwa Wan, was summoned before Mr. H. G. Sheldon, K.C., this morning, for failing to produce his driving licence when called upon in Queen's Road, Central on December 7, and with allowing his car No. 3441 to remain longer than necessary outside the French Bank Building.

Mr. Des Voeux said that after the constable had asked him to produce his licence to the Traffic Office, he forgot to do so.

A fine of \$30 was imposed. Traffic Inspector F. J. Clarke prosecuted.

FRANCE IS ANXIOUSLY AWAITING HITLER'S NEXT MOVE FOLLOWING REPORTS THAT MARSHAL PETAIN HAS FIRMLY REFUSED GERMAN DEMANDS BOTH FOR MILITARY COOPERATION AND THE REINSTATEMENT OF PIERRE LAVAL AS FOREIGN MINISTER.

While fears of imminent "blitz" action by the German army against unoccupied France have given place to a note of moderate optimism, it is realised that the danger is by no means past.

Flandin is reported to profess confidence that Hitler will be satisfied with Marshal Petain's reply in which concessions of some kind are evidently made.

Neutral observers are asking whether the possibility of Marshal Petain ordering the resumption of French resistance, on the plea that the armistice is being violated, will be enough to restrain the Nazi war machine.

It is pointed out that the Germans, anxious as they are to gain a foothold on the shores of the Mediterranean and to seize France's submarine fleet, must be sorely tempted to march if "peaceful pressure" fails. Marshal Petain is fighting hard to keep his word to the French people that France's unity will be maintained — to gain time to strengthen the discipline of unoccupied France and the French colonies.

Army Inspection

That this is more than a mere phrase is indicated by the recent activity of General Huntziger, Minister of War, who has just inspected France's armistice army and the French fleet at Toulon and in North Africa.

General Weygand and General Bergeret, Minister for Air, have completed visits to all chief centres in France's African colonies and in Syria. Meanwhile Swiss correspondents, reporting that a feeling of hopefulness is now noticed in Vichy, say that Frenchmen are anxiously watching the demarcation line separating them from Nazi-occupied territory.

Presented On Sunday

The French reply to Hitler's demands was presented to Abetz, Ribbentrop's representative in Paris, by the Comte de Brinon, Vichy's delegate-general in occupied territory, on Sunday, according to the "Gazette de Lausanne."

The newspaper's Vichy correspondent says that though nothing is known of the exact number of German demands or the reply, "the atmosphere which reigned in Vichy last week has disappeared as if by a miracle."

The correspondent adds that there is absolute confidence that Marshal Petain has no intention of accepting any "political engagements" contrary to the honour of the fleet and the army.

Impression Of Optimism

The Vichy correspondent of "La Suisse" writes: "Today's bulletin about the health of France shows that the temperature has gone down although the patient's condition is still grave."

The correspondent adds that although the German reply is still awaited, Marshal Petain's Note is believed to have had a favourable reception.

When the Foreign Minister received a series of visitors in Vichy he gave an impression of optimism. — Reuter.

FORGED NOTES ON MARKET

THAT A LARGE NUMBER OF FORGED \$10 NOTES OF THE HONG KONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, HAVE BEEN CIRCULATED IN THE COLONY IN THE PAST FEW WEEKS, WAS MENTIONED BEFORE MR. E. HIMS-WORTH AT THE KOWLOON MAGISTRACY THIS MORNING WHEN TUNG IU WAS SENTENCED TO FOUR MONTHS' HARD LABOUR FOR POSSESSION OF ONE FORGED NOTE.

According to Det.-Sgt. C. Dowman, who prosecuted, and asked that a very serious view be taken, Tung Iu went to a shop at No. 36, Ngatsinwai Road, at 8.50 p.m. on Friday, December 13, and produced the note for a packet of "Three Castles" cigarettes.

The shop fooki, however, was not satisfied with the note, and said the shop had not enough small change.

Accused walked away, but was followed by the master of the shop to the intersection of Sha Po and Ngatsinwai Roads, where a Chinese constable searched and arrested accused.

Det.-Sgt. Dowman admitted that, owing to accused's refusal to give information as to where he had obtained the note, the police were unable to look for further developments.

Accused was originally charged with uttering the forged note, but this charge was withdrawn this morning.

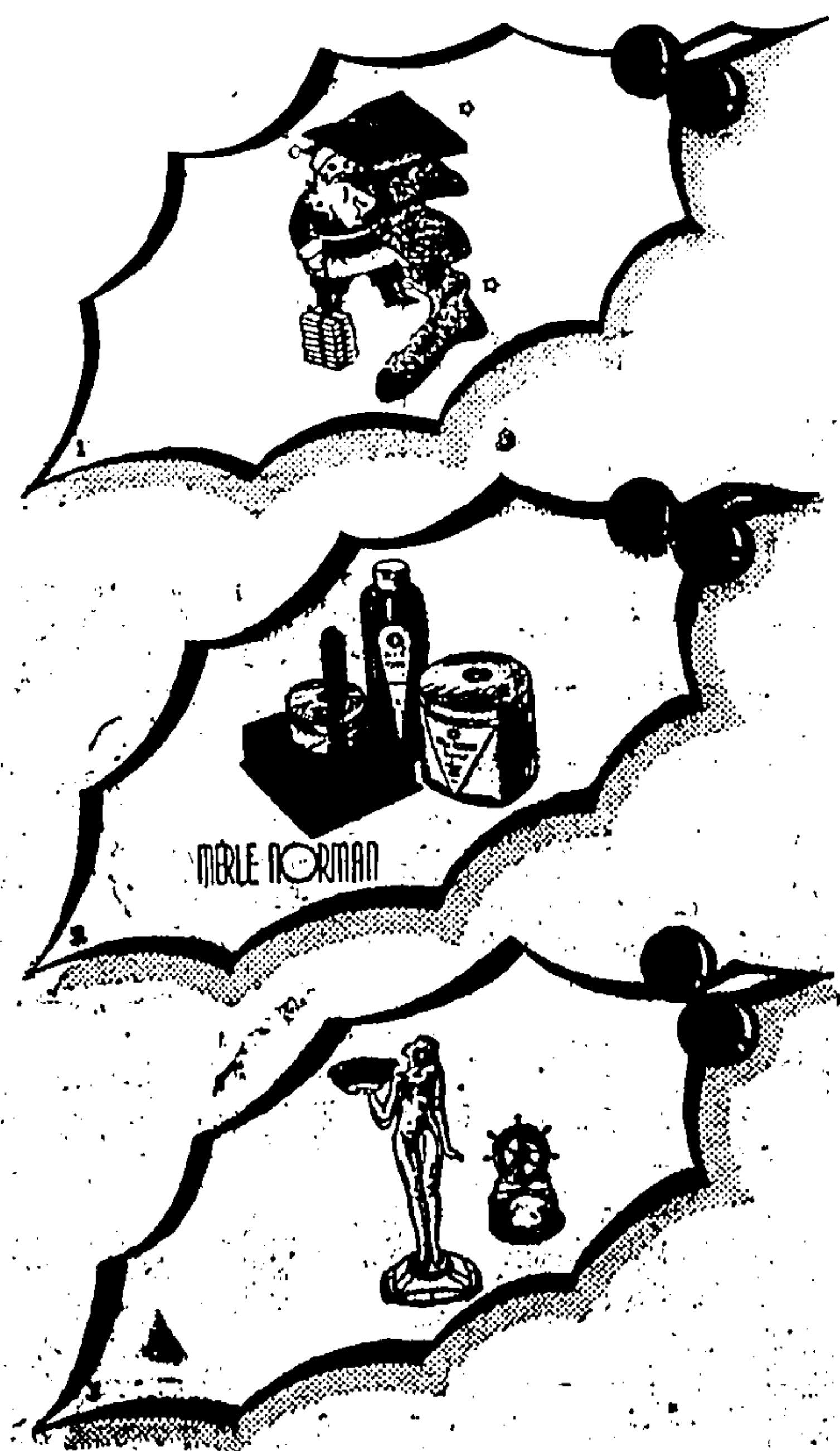
ALERT CORPORAL

Charged with stealing 80 drums of paint, valued at \$400 from the Royal Army Ordnance Depot in Queen's Road East, Paul Kwai, 28, was remanded by Mr. H. G. Sheldon, K.C., until Thursday.

Detective Sergeant V. Morrison said detainees were seen climbing from the roof of the depot to the Royal Ordnance Depot. He was arrested and taken back to the depot where he was found with a windmill. The windmill was found in a room, and the paint was found in a nullah nearby.



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ITALIANS INVITED TO THINK

Mr. Churchill Suggests Disavowal Of Mussolini

WHIP TO CABINET RANK

His Majesty the King held a Privy Council at Buckingham Palace yesterday morning at which Mr. Anthony Eden received his seals of office as the new Foreign Secretary and Captain Margesson as the Secretary for War.

They kissed hands on their appointment.

Mr. Eden took over at the Foreign Office yesterday. He is no stranger there, for he was Foreign Secretary from 1935 to 1938.

His return is widely welcomed by the British press, and Viscount Cranborne, who will go to the House of Lords as Government spokesman on foreign policy, will renew his collaboration with Mr. Eden, for from 1935 to 1938 he was Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs.

He resigned with Mr. Eden because neither supported Mr. Chamberlain's policy of appeasing Italy.

The choice of Captain Margesson is somewhat unusual, as he has been Chief Government Whip for nine years and has never yet held Cabinet rank.

His organising ability and strong sense of discipline are expected to fit him well for the post of Secretary of State for War. — Reuter.

GENEROUS GIFT OF MALAYAN CHINESE

AS A RESULT OF A BIG DRIVE BY THE CHINESE COMMUNITY OF MALAYA A FORT-NIGHT AGO, £30,000 HAS BEEN RAISED FOR THE LORD MAYOR'S AIR-RAID DISTRESS FUND.

The money will be sent to London shortly. — Reuter.



CAN'T SLEEP NIGHTS?

A hot cup of Cocomalt before retiring induces sound and restful sleep.



Need Destruction Of Italy Go On

A DRAMATIC APPEAL TO THE ITALIAN NATION TO DISAVOW MUSSOLINI AND TO FOLLOW THE HOUSE OF SAVOY WAS MADE BY THE PRIME MINISTER, MR. WINSTON CHURCHILL, BROADCASTING FROM LONDON LAST NIGHT.

Mr. Churchill also revealed for the first time that messages had passed between him and the Duce just prior to Italy's entry into the war — messages which disclosed that Italy only took up arms against Britain because of her treaty with Germany.

"To-night," said Mr. Churchill, "I speak to the Italian people, and I speak to you from London, the heart of the British Islands and of the British Commonwealth and Empire.

"I speak to you what diplomats call words of great truth and respect. We are at war—that is a very strange and terrible thought.

"Whoever would imagine, until the last few melancholy years, that the British and Italian nations would be trying to destroy one another?

"We have always been friends. We were the champions of the Italian risorgimento. We were partisans of Garibaldi, Mazzini and Cavour.

Liberal Movement

"All that great movement towards liberty of the Italian nation which lighted the 19th Century was aided and was hailed by the British Parliament and public.

"Our fathers and our grandfathers longed to see Italy freed from the Austrian yoke and to see all minor barriers in Italy swept away so that the Italian people and their fair land might take their honoured place as one of the leading powers upon the Continent and as a brilliant and gifted member of the family of Europe and of Christendom.

"We have never been your foes until now. In the last war, against the barbarous Huns, we were your comrades.

"For fifteen years after that war we were your friends.

"Although the institutions which you adopted after the war were not akin to ours and diverged, as we think, from the sovereign impulses which had commanded the unity of Italy, we could still walk together in peace and goodwill.

Amity And Esteem

"Many thousands of our people dwelt with you in Italy. We liked each other, we got on well together. There were reciprocal services, there was amity, there was esteem.

"And now we are at war; now we are condemned to work each other's ruin. Our aviators are tearing and will tear your African Empire to shreds and tatters.

"We are only now at the beginning of this sombre tale. Who can say where it will end? "Presently we shall be forced to come to much closer grips.

One Man

"How has all this come about and what is it all for? Italians, I will tell you the truth.

"It is all because of one man. One man and one man alone has ranged the Italian people in a deadly struggle against the British Empire and has deprived Italy of the sympathy and intimacy of the United States of America.

"That he is a great man I do not deny; but that after eighteen years of unbridled power he has led your country to the world verge of ruin can be denied by none.

"It is all one man who, against the Crown and Royal Family, against the Pope and all

the authority of the Vatican and of the Roman Catholic Church, against the wishes of the Italian people, who had no lust for this war, has arrayed the inheritors of ancient Rome upon the side of the pagan barbarians.

Tragedy Of History

"There is the tragedy of Italian history and there stands the criminal who has wrought it.

"What is the defence that is put forward for his action? It is, of course, the quarrel about Sanctions and Abyssinia. Let us look at that.

"Together after the last war Italy and Britain both signed the Covenant of the League of Nations, which forbid all parties to that Covenant to make war upon each other or upon fellow members of the League, and bound all signatories to come to the aid of any member who was attacked by another.

"Presently Abyssinia came knocking at the door asking to be a member. We British advised against it. We doubted whether they had reached a stage in their development which warranted their inclusion, but it was Mussolini who insisted that Abyssinia should become a member of the League, and who therefore bound himself and bound you and us to respect their covenanted rights.

What Need?

"I declare—and my words will go far—that nothing that happened in that Abyssinian quarrel can count for or justify the deadly war which has now broken out between us.

"Then the great war between the British and French democracies and the Prussian militarists or Nazi dictatorship began again.

"Where was the need of Italy to intervene? Where was the need to strike at prostrate France? Where was the need to invade Egypt, which is under British protection?

"We were content with Italian neutrality. During the first eight months of the war we paid great deference to Italian interests.

"But this was all put down to fear.

"Now that I have taken up my office as Prime Minister and Minister of Defence, I look back to our meeting in Rome and feel a desire to speak words of goodwill to you, as chief of the Italian nation, across what seems to be a swiftly widened gulf.

Is It Too Late?

"Is it too late to stop a river of blood from flowing between the British and Italian peoples?

"We can, no doubt, inflict grievous injuries upon one another and thus upon other truly and often the Mediterranean with our strife.

"It is idle to predict the course of the great battles now raging in Europe, but I am sure that what

may happen on the Continent, England will go on to the end, even quite alone, as we have done before, and I believe with some assurance that we shall be aided in increasing measure by the United States, and indeed by all Americas.

"This is the gist of a letter I sent to Signor Mussolini when I became Prime Minister.

Choice Open

"I make no comment upon the Duce's answer. It speaks for itself. Anyone can see who it was that wanted peace and who it was that meant to have war.

"One man and only one man was resolved to pledge Italy after all these years of strain and effort into the whirlpool of war.

"What is the position of Italy to-day? Where is it that the Duce has led his distrustful people after eighteen years of duceatorial power?

"What hard choice is open now? It is to stand up to the battery of the whole British Empire on the sea, in the air, and in Africa, and to the vigorous counter-attack of Greece.

"There is one man and one only who has led you there.

"I leave this unfolding until the day comes—as come it will—when the Italian nation will once more take the shaping of its own fortunes." — Reuter.

ITALIAN APOLOGY FOR DEFEAT

The remarkable "apology" issued by the Italian news agency in the form of reports from Marshal Graziani on the operations in the Western Desert has aroused some comment in military circles in London.

The Italian High Command is at pains to say that the Fascist troops "resisted nobly but the weight of attack was too much."

A similar tribute is paid to the R.A.F. when the Italian High Command says that they could not make the full weight of the Italian air force felt because of bad weather.

No explanation is given why the weather should have been worse for the Italians than it was for the R.A.F. in the same sky!

Graziani's point that he was not taken by surprise only makes the Italian defence seem even more inefficient.

It is not clear why Graziani should say he had adequate supplies of guns to deal with any movement from the south when in fact the British attacked from that direction. — Reuter.

NAVAL BUILDING IN CANADA

Britain has placed orders in Canada for another 12 mine-sweepers. This brings the total number of naval vessels to be built in Canadian shipyards up to 120. — Reuter.

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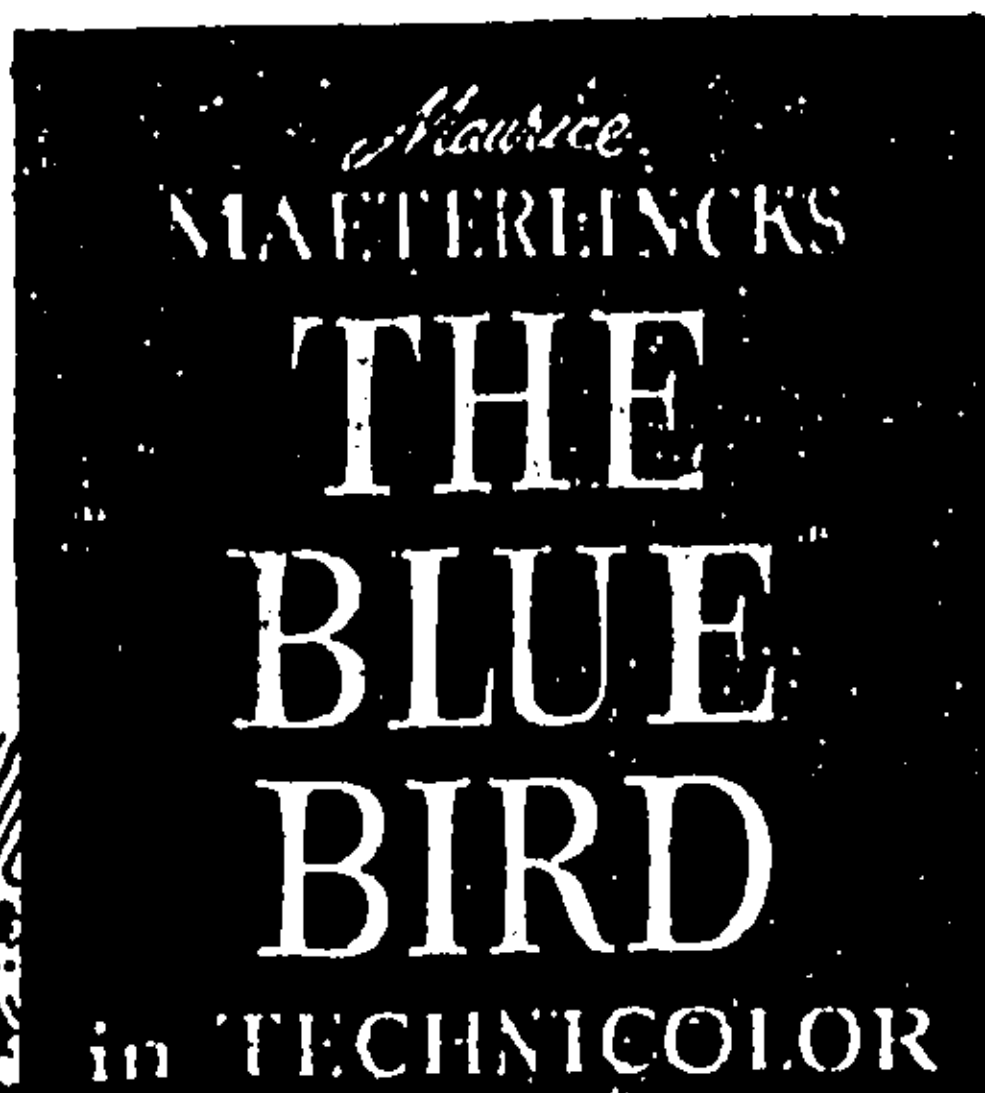
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36,000 PRISONERS AND THOUSANDS MORE TO BE COUNTED

THE NUMBER OF Italians taken prisoner in the Western Desert is now set at almost 36,000—with several thousands more waiting to be counted. Bardia is still being shelled while British preparations continue outside it.

G.H.Q., Cairo, yesterday announced that prisoners evacuated from the main Sidi Barani area now total 35,949, including 1,704 officers.

Several thousand more have not yet been brought in from the forward camps.

It is pointed out in London that Bardia is a different proposition from Sidi Barani.

At Sidi Barani, the Italians had erected as elaborate defences as they could in the two months they were there.

Bardia, in the other hand, has been defended ever since the Italians arrived in Libya. There are permanent fortifications running round it for some seven or eight miles in every direction. There are also a large number of coastal-defence guns.

The importance of Bardia is shown in a recent Rome broadcast, which said:—

"The defence of Bardia is not only the defence of Libya but also of Fascism."

Bardia's port is only of minor importance. Two ships can go in at one time, but there is only a small pier with about 10 feet of water. All embarkation and disembarkation has to be by lighters and boats, and bad weather easily interferes with such operations.

There is, actually, no port of any size between Alexandria and Tobruk.

The Sidi Barani anchorage is entirely exposed and there is only a small pier at which boats can land. To embark the Italian prisoners, the Navy had a very difficult job requiring special organisation.

At Mersa Matruh, ships of any size have to stay out at sea. There are two jetties with about 12 feet of water. — Reuter.

JAPANESE MURDERED

YET ANOTHER JAPANESE SERVICEMAN HAS BEEN MURDERED IN THE JAPANESE-CONTROLLED AREA OF SHANGHAI.

The fourteenth Japanese victim in recent weeks is Satoshi Miyazaki, a Japanese consular policeman, who was "brutally murdered by three unidentified Chinese last Friday night" in Nantao, the Japanese-occupied district adjoining the French Concession, according to the Japanese press in Shanghai to-day.

Fifteen slashes were found on Miyazaki when he was picked up and rushed to hospital, where he died shortly afterwards.

It is believed he was attacked with a meat chopper. — Reuter.

WAITING GAME BY WAVELL ARMY IN LIBYA

The British forces in Libya are playing a waiting game. Apart from a steady stream of reinforcements consolidating the positions around Bardia and intermittent shelling there is nothing further to report. — Reuter.

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TO-DAY — TO-MORROW — THURSDAY



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CHRISTMAS

C. INGENOHL'S CIGAR STORES

La Perla del Oriente

MUTT AND JEFF

By BUD FISHER.



300 BOMBS ON ITALIAN AIR BASE

Details are now available from Nairobi of the raid on Yavello, Abyssinia, which is officially described as "the biggest thing since Mogadisho."

Flying over country of a very forbidding nature, aircraft of the South African Air Force spotted enemy aircraft concealed in bushes.

Despite heavy anti-aircraft fire three waves of planes swooped upon their targets. Two Caproni machines were set afire and left charred on the ground while a third was reduced to wreckage by an incendiary bomb.

Three hundred bombs were dropped on the target area and the perimeter was machine-gunned.

Three more Capronis were clearly seen to be seriously damaged. Part of the wing of one was torn off, the fuselage of another was practically blown out of the aircraft while a third was left like a shell.

All the South African aircraft returned safely to base.—British Wireless.

EDEN APPOINTMENT CAUSES OUTBURST OF NAZI WRATH

AN OUTBURST OF WRATH in the German press has greeted the appointment of Mr. Anthony Eden as Foreign Secretary.

The "Boersen Zeitung" writes: "With Eden there comes to the Foreign Office a man whose activities have been dictated by a pathological hatred of the authoritarian States."

"With this appointment London expects an improvement in British-Russian relations and stiffens the attitude to Japan, Spain and other members of the Axis."

"The answer to these illusions will be a crushing one. All these nations, including the Soviet, will only see the true face of England more clearly for the appointment of Eden."

The "Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung" says: "Those who have whipped England into war—Churchill, Eden and Margesson—are now on the spot, where they deserve to be."

"All three are burdened with the guilt of war and are now branded with full responsibility for Britain's decline, which their policy has brought about."—Reuter.

NEW TAXES IN CANTON NEXT YEAR

An interesting sidelight on Canton government activities is provided by an item in the "Canton Daily Sun" which notified those interested that bids are open for monopolies in the Pun-yu district.

Monopolies put to tender are: gambling, a minimum of Y6,400 a month; sugar, Y10,000 per annum, and joss paper and candles Y2,000 per annum.

The paper states that according to a Municipal Government report four new types of taxes are to be enforced early next year. They are an amusement tax, tax on fresh sea products imported into the city, a tax on prostitution and a tax on advertising.—Reuter.

EUROPEANS SUMMONED

Several Europeans were summoned before Mr. H. G. Sheldon, K.C., this morning, for breach of Traffic Regulations.

Mrs. E. C. Frederick, of No. 177, Repulse Bay, was cautioned for allowing her car to remain in Des Voeux Road Central near Pottinger Street, longer than necessary on December 5.

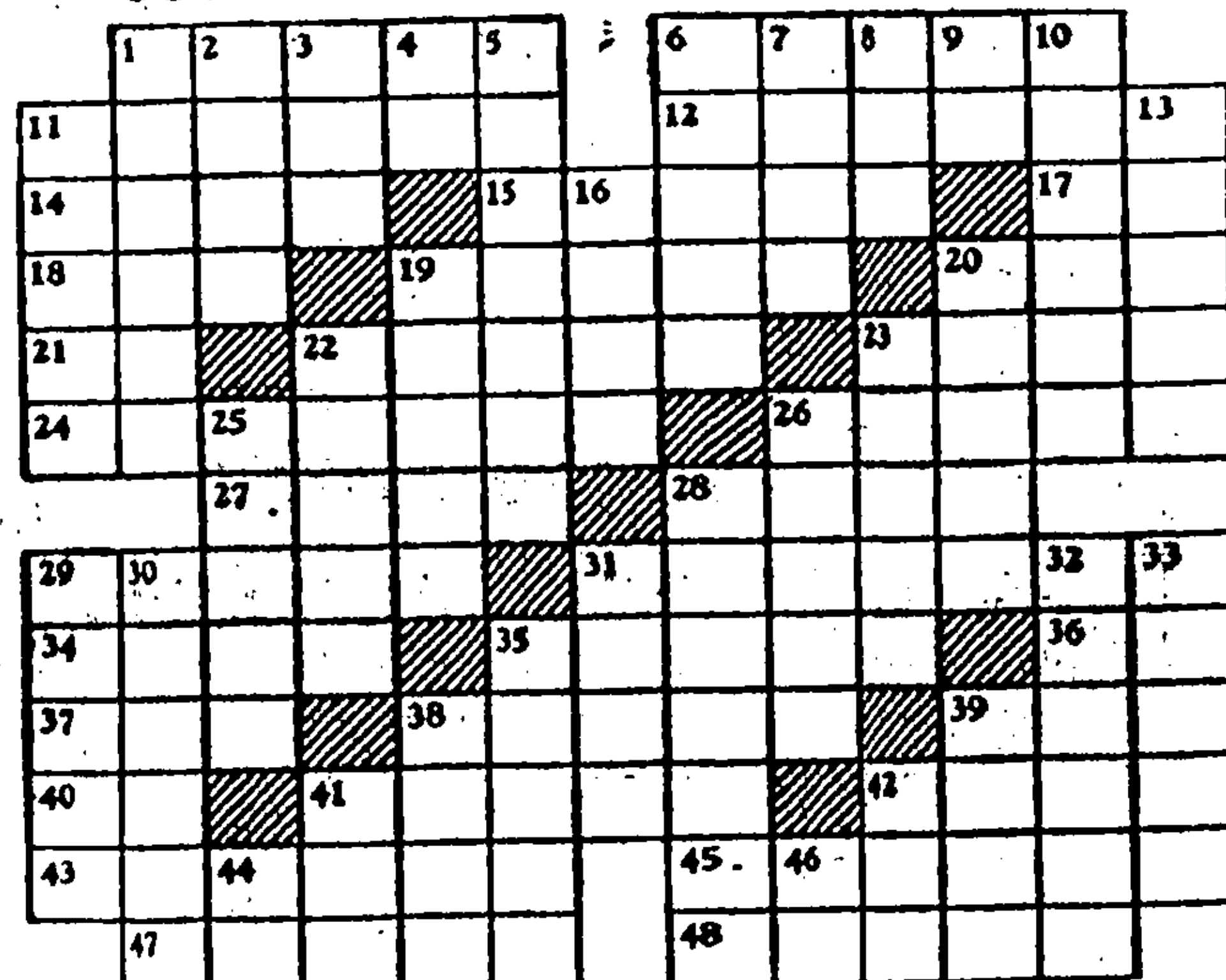
Mrs. C. M. Stark, of No. 274, The Peak, was fined \$10 for leaving her car unattended in Chater Road near Union Building on November 30.

A \$10 fine was imposed on Mr. D. B. Nelson, of Jardine, Matheson's for a similar offence.

Dr. H. L. Canaval, of Shell House, was fined \$10 for parking overtime in Pedder Street on December 2. It was stated that Dr. Canaval left his car in the parking stand from 11.37 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Mr. A. Zimmern, of No. 1, Kennedy Road, was fined \$5 for failing to obey a traffic signal at the junction of Stubbs Road and Gap Road on December 2.

OUR 10-MINUTE CROSS-WORD



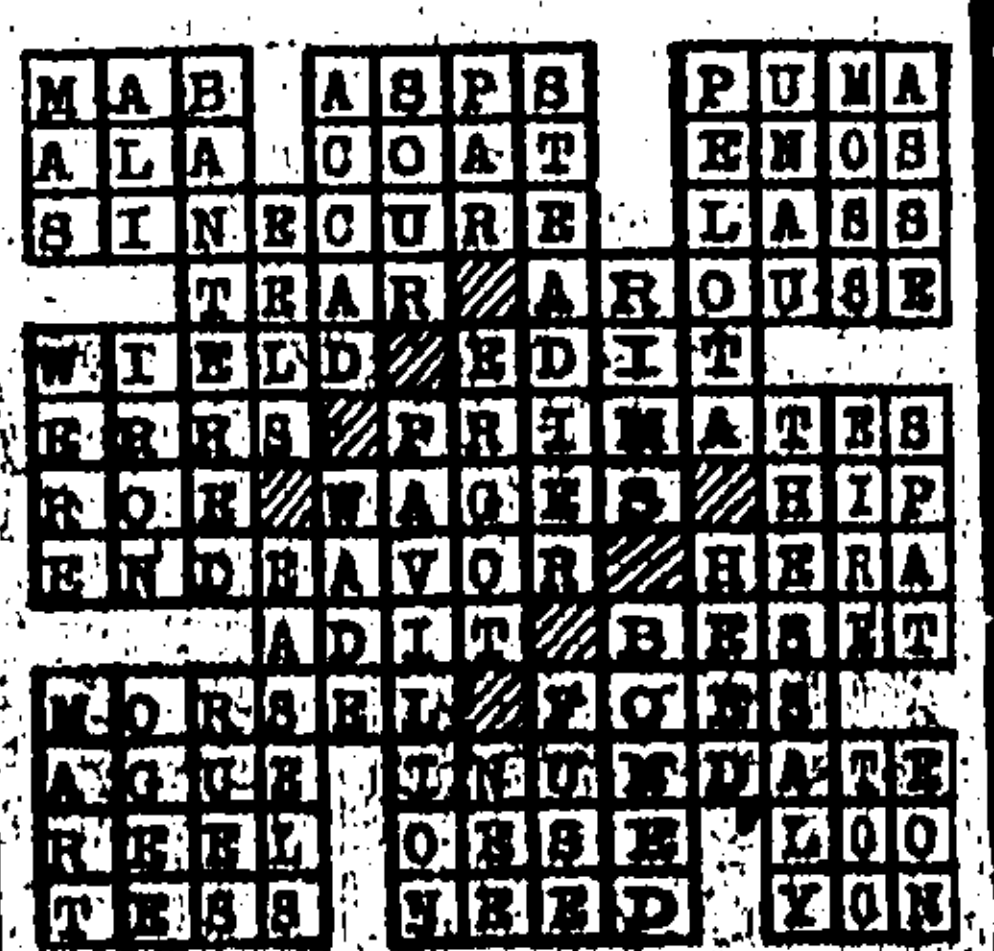
HORIZONTAL

- 1 To shroud
- 6 Person indifferent to pleasure or pain
- 11 Mark of infamy
- 12 To journey
- 14 Roman emperor
- 15 Colloquial: impudence
- 17 Artificial language
- 18 Poetic: to unclose
- 19 Long-legged bird
- 20 Spanish hero
- 21 Above
- 22 Backbone
- 23 To destroy
- 24 Fabric capable of being woven
- 26 Confession
- 27 Ireland
- 28 Roman mid-day meal
- 29 Pace between a walk and a trot
- 31 Rained
- 34 To pare
- 35 To combine
- 36 Eleven
- 37 Mountain

VERTICAL

- 1 Treeless plain
- 2 To employ
- 3 The self
- 4 Printer's measure
- 5 Pertaining to the sense of touch
- 6 Metric measure
- 7 Organised migration
- 8 Acorn-bearing tree
- 9 Four
- 10 Cherry-colour
- 11 Animal's nose
- 13 Metal-bearing veins
- 16 To sharpen
- 19 Steeple
- 20 Jewel measure
- 22 Yet
- 23 To wash lightly
- 25 Three-masted vessel
- 26 To simulate
- 28 Garland
- 29 To frighten
- 30 Scant
- 31 Mythological Greek priestess
- 32 Superabundance
- 33 Likewise
- 35 Billiard shot
- 38 Japanese aborigine
- 39 Footless animal
- 41 Swamp
- 42 To transgress
- 44 Japanese money
- 45 Sun god

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION



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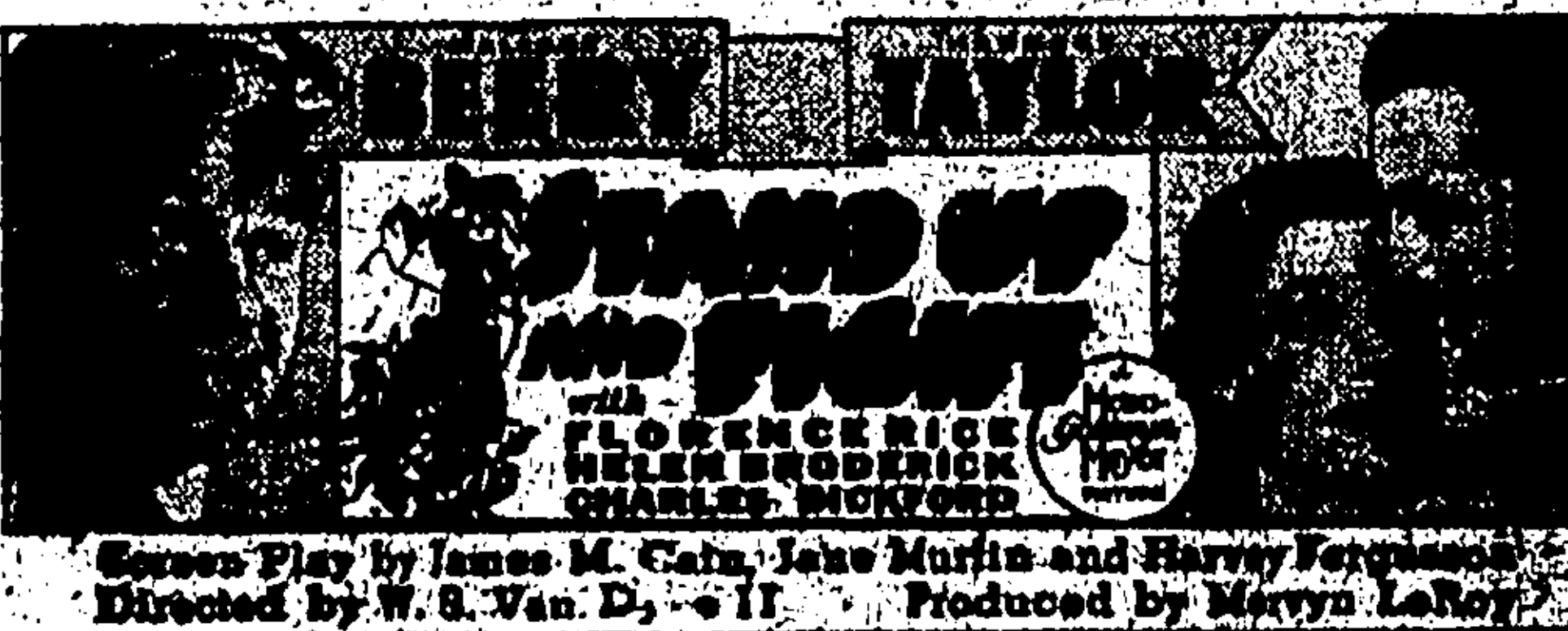


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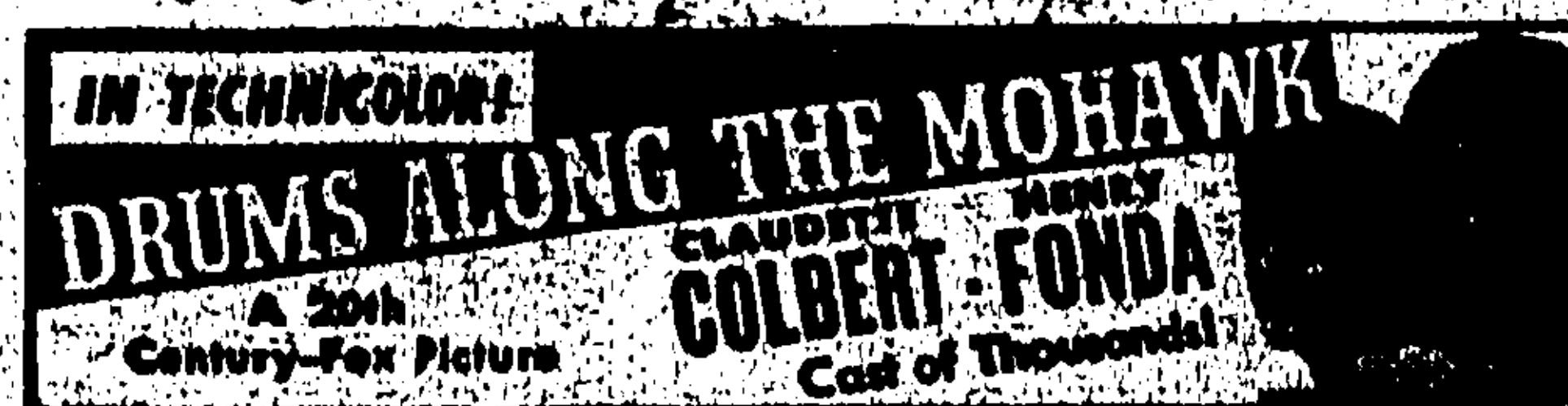
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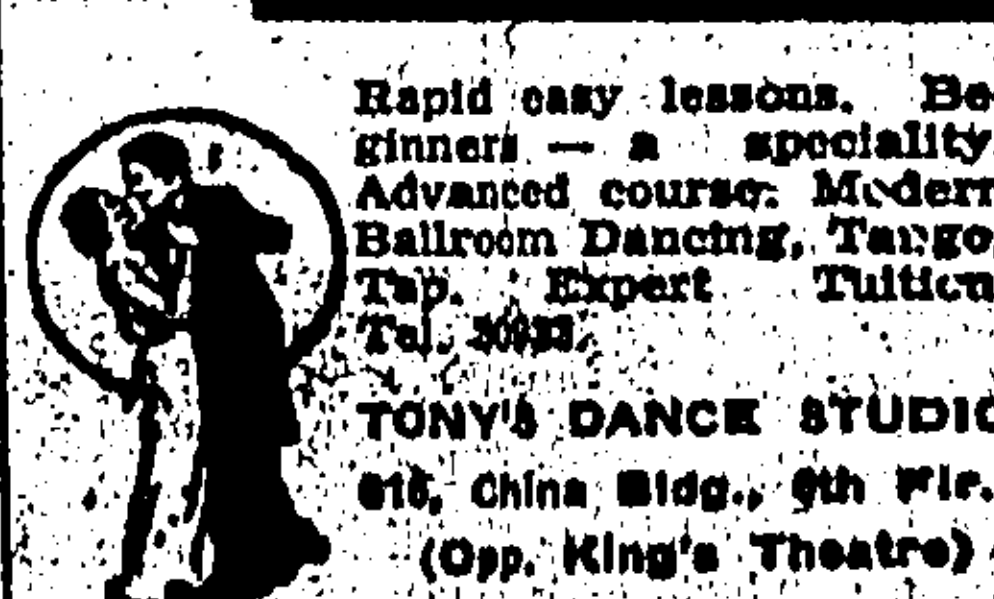


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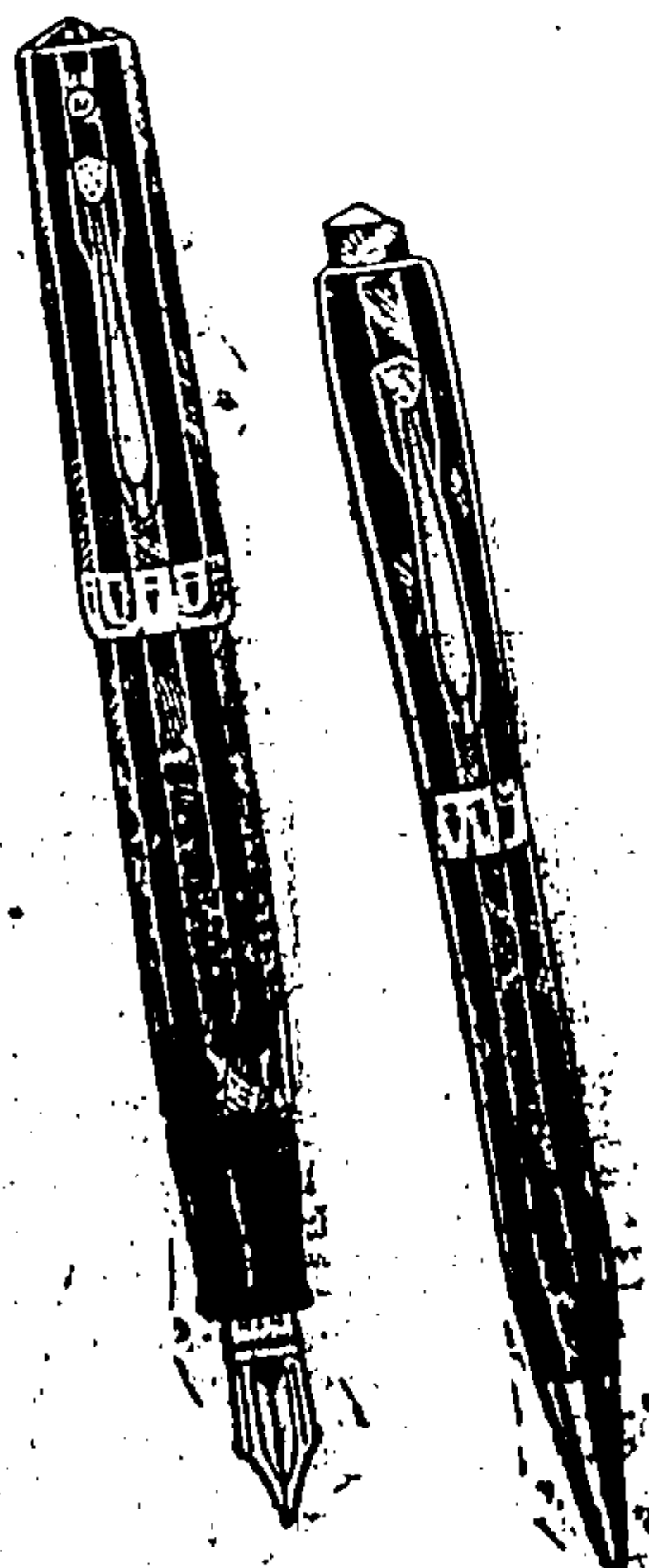
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R.A.F. Onslaught On Aerodromes In Libya

A BIG ONSLAUGHT by the R.A.F. on Italian air bases behind the Libyan war front was reported in yesterday's R.A.F. communique in Cairo, as well as a big air battle in Albania.

Aerodromes at Berka and Benina — two main reinforcement dromes near Benghazi — were heavily raided on the night of Dec. 21.

Big fires were started at Berka while at Benina three hangars were left burning and badly damaged, and aircraft on the ground machine-gunned from 500 feet.

One enemy aircraft is believed to have been shot down while two British aircraft failed to return. — Reuter.

Considerable damage was caused the same night at the Italian stronghold of Tobruk, where British bombers attacked the harbour and military objectives.

Albania Air Battle

A fierce air battle took place over Argyrokastron between nine British fighters and over 50 Italian planes.

Eight enemy fighters were definitely shot down and three more probably destroyed, while two British planes were lost.

The R.A.F. communique continues: "The pilot of one British machine was seen being machine-gunned by Italian fighters while he was descending by parachute.

"He died half an hour after he was found from wounds received during his parachute descent.

Second Occasion

"It is placed on record that this is the second occasion since hostilities began in the Middle East that irrefutable evidence has been received of an R.A.F. pilot having been machine-gunned while making a parachute descent.

"This follows the practice of Italian pilots adopted in the Spanish war."

The communique adds that oil wells at Kucove, in central Albania, were raided by R.A.F. bombers on Sunday.

HEIR TO FURNESS MILLIONS MISSING BELIEVED KILLED

A BRITISH OFFICER who was reported "missing, believed killed" is now named chief heir to the Furness millions.

He is the Hon. Christopher Furness, son of Viscount Furness, ship-builder and industrialist, who died in October leaving unsettled estate valued at over £3,661,000, of which £1,850,000 estate duty has been paid.

Viscount Furness left seven-eighths of the residue of the property upon trust for his son, Christopher.

It was revealed in London yesterday that in spite of far-reaching inquiries, no news of Christopher has been received since he fell leading his platoon in France on May 24.

No-one has seen him dead. There is no information of his being a prisoner of war. Inquiries in France have had no result.

It is considered that the succession to the title cannot be determined until the end of the war.

William Anthony

In the event of the death of Christopher, Furness being presumed, the new Lord Furness will be the seven-year-old William Anthony, son of the Viscount, by his second wife, now Mrs. Thelma Converse.

William Anthony was bequeathed the remaining eighth of the residue of the Viscount's property. — Reuter.

30S. WIFE — NO GUARANTEE

A wife, at Bromley, Kent, Matrimonial Court asked her husband, "Did you not offer to sell me for 30s. to a man who called at the door?"

The husband, an aircraftman in the R.A.F., replied, "Yes. But I did not tell him you were worth it."

PARALLEL POLICY IN PACIFIC

THE VIEW THAT THE British Cabinet reshuffle signifies closer British cooperation with the United States is shared by the "Ta Kung Pao," "National Times" and "Lih Pao" in editorials this morning.

The "Ta Kung Pao" says that in the last two days there have been reports of Britain and the United States strengthening their defences in the Far East, including the despatch by Britain of large air, infantry, artillery and auxiliary forces to Singapore, the acceleration by the United States of her naval building programme, the despatch of planes and warships to Manila and the strengthening of Philippines defences.

All these steps, the paper says, bear out the fact that Britain and the United States have a clear understanding on the Far Eastern situation and are taking parallel action to cope with it.

The appointment of Mr. Anthony Eden as Foreign Minister, and Lord Halifax as Ambassador to the United States is further testimony.

The Cabinet reshuffle may be considered as an effective reply to Japan's sinister designs of southward expansion, and to Mr. Y. Matsuoka's recent utterances.

The "National Times" sees a more lively and vigorous British foreign policy in the appointment of Mr. Eden as Foreign Minister.

That the reshuffle was effected to further cement Anglo-American

relations is evident from the following factors: first, the appointment of the Foreign Minister as Ambassador to the United States implies Britain's highest compliment to America; second, Mr. Eden is much respected in the United States, and as Foreign Minister he will undoubtedly succeed in winning more American sympathy for Britain; and third, the appointment of Mr. Eden as Foreign Minister signifies Britain's desire for parallel action with the United States in the Far East as he is an ardent advocate of Anglo-American cooperation in this part of the world.

The "Lih Pao" describes the reshuffle as further weeding out of the Munich elements. — Central News.

CHEQUE THEFT ALLEGATION

Pleading of guilty to stealing a cheque for \$30, the property of 2/Lt. D. A. F. Matthews, of the Punjab Regiment, Lam Tung 27, servant employed in the Regimental Mess, was remanded until Friday by Mr. E. Himsforth this morning.

Accused was alleged to have stolen the cheque yesterday. Det. Sgt. Bethell is in charge of the case.

FIVE-CENT COIN FORGERIES

Arrested on Sunday, when attempting to utter a forged five-cent coin to a newspaper hawker, Wong Kwan, 26, was charged before Mr. E. Himsforth this morning with uttering and with possession of 34 forged five-cent coins.

A remand for further inquiries was ordered.

CHINA MAIL
WINDSOR HOUSE

PERHAPS...

One reaction to the film "The Grapes of Wrath" was a feeling that its tremendous challenge had not been met. "Perhaps there is no solution." Could nobody find an adequate answer to this defeatist doubt? Are the economic factors that drive men, women and children into hunger, slavery and despair, entirely beyond human control? It has been complained that not one Christian has had the courage to say that the solution for the tragic problem depicted in the story of the Joad family was found nearly two thousand years ago. It was enshrined in what that "enemy of all religions," Mr. H. G. Wells, has described as "one of the most revolutionary doctrines that ever stirred and changed human thought." It was "no less than a bold and uncompromising demand for a complete change and cleansing of our struggling race, an utter cleansing, without and within." This simple and profound doctrine of the universal loving Fatherhood of God and the coming of the Kingdom of Heaven swept away all tribal patriotism and lesser loyalties; condemned all private wealth and proud possessions; and sought to set up something in men's hearts that would revolutionise the outer world and make it new. So wrote Mr. Wells in his survey of world history.

It would not be presenting a jarring note for this Christmastide, when half the nations of the world are at war or under the conquerors' heel, to suggest that the thought is specially worth pondering to-day. Many Christians will not accept the Wellsian interpretation of the teaching of Jesus. They may even shudder at the suggestion that the ultimate solution for the modern world's ills must be socialism on a Christian basis. They will remember the saying that no State can exist for twenty-four hours if it is run on the principles of the Sermon on the Mount. And the mention of any "ism" creates a dread of drifting into the damnable materialism of atheistic Communism. They feel it will be safer somehow to go on vaguely hoping for the best, and building visionary new worlds with pious platitudes and magnificent phrases.

The problem for the Western world, if it is

Mr. Winston Churchill, asked about British war aims, has said in effect that we must come closer to winning the war before we can sensibly declare what we intend to do with our victory. This is sound sense, and has been accepted as such by the mass of people of Britain. Those who still grumble at the lack of definition in our war aims are for the most part concerned with the effect of such a declaration upon neutral opinion. Yet here, too, first things must come first, and what the wavering neutrals most want to know is that we can and will win the war. The victories of the Royal Air Force in August and September have done more to rally the neutrals to the Allied cause than could possibly have been done by any manifesto of the rights of man, or covenant of the post-war society of nations.

First Things First

We in the British Empire have always been confident of ultimate victory, because we have always been resolved never to give in. To-day our confidence is more firmly rooted than ever. Yet even we cannot foretell enough of the conditions of victory to be able to fix our war aims, whether for ourselves or for Europe or for the world society of nations, with any definiteness. We do not know who will prove to have been our enemies and who our allies. We do not know what will then be the attitude of the American people towards their responsibilities in establishing and defending a new world order. We do not know where Soviet Russia or Japan will stand—whether perhaps a breakdown of German power in Central and Eastern Europe through a defeat at our hands might not give rise to fresh wars of liberation or of aggrandisement or of ideology in that area.

In brief, though the assumption of victory implies that our power will extend over our enemies, we do not know how much further it would extend, and how far, therefore, we could implement what we might to-day promise as our war aims.

Yet it is not impossible to obtain, if we seek it, a first approximation to our war aims, by striking a rough median between our minimum and our maximum aspirations. Our minimum aspirations have already been declared: in the world at large, to secure against assault by a tyrannous barbarism the great realm of freedom, co-extensive with the world's oceans, to which we belong; on the continent of Europe, to restore freedom to our allies—Poland, Czechoslovakia, Norway, Holland, Belgium, France. Our maximum aspirations, on the other hand, are those which we would turn into reality if we and those of like mind with us could have the ordering of the whole world under our influence.

What Kind Of International Order?

The minimum implies two things. First, that our power to apply our own decisions will extend at the moment of victory not only over the oceanic area but also over the whole northern and western fringe of Europe, as far as the

truly Christian to-day, is to translate the teaching of Jesus into terms of modern social systems and economic complexities. The solution lies in the literal acceptance of the ancient commandment: "Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." But, before there is sufficient courage to apply the simple solution, we must wait for the miracle of a universal change of heart. Perhaps it will come.

inward borders of the Allied countries. Secondly, that we intend not only to restore national freedom to those countries—for that by itself would be useless—but

By Britannicus

also to find some means of securing it for the future.

This means, in turn, that we seek some form of international order and common security which will embrace at least the British Commonwealth and the northern

half of Europe. What kind of international order? In order to answer that question, we must take a look at our maximum aspiration, and make our "first approximation" between the most and the least that we can hope for. Undoubtedly, if we had the ordering of the whole world in our hands, we would establish some system which cut at the roots of national sovereignty. Call this system the super-state, federal union, international government, an international police force, or what you will, it must have two essentials

—power in its hands to deter or quell aggression within or without, and direct responsibility from the authority wielding that power to the representatives of the people.

The difference between the most and the least is wide. It may be a gap in time as well as in scale. The solution may lie in so ordering the least that it leads on to the most. But somewhere, on some medial line, between those two limits lie the war aims which we shall in the end not merely adopt but achieve.

Britain's Anti-Aircraft Gunners

Britain's anti-aircraft gunners came right into the news when the German big-scale raids on England began.

They got the opportunity they had been waiting for with inexhaustible patience for nearly a year.

Nearly all the laurels for bringing down German machines were being collected by the Royal Air Force, although many of their successes were unquestionably due to the cooperation of the searchlights.

This went on week after week, month after month, and the public heard very little about the "ack-ack" boys—as they are affectionately known all over Britain—in spite of the fact that they had been keeping the raiding machines well away from vulnerable spots.

Then came the moment for real action.

It didn't take long for them to show what they were made of and that in spite of lack of actual practice at the shooting of real targets in the heavens they quickly gave convincing proof that their aim was good and that they would provide an important link in the defence of the island fortress from air attack.

Thus it was that when the "targets" were available in the shape of German heavy and light bombers the anti-aircraft guns in a comparatively restricted zone found their mark 57 times in six days.

The highest score in one day was 22. Every battery in Britain is out to beat that score as soon as opportunity occurs.

That they can do the job there

is no doubt, for in the opinion of experts there is no department of military science in which development has been so remarkable as in anti-aircraft gunnery.

This is all the more remarkable since, less than three years ago, Britain had only one 3.7 anti-aircraft gun in the whole of the country.

This type of gun forms the backbone of the island's anti-aircraft defences. There is the more powerful 4.5 gun which is also being used in greater numbers, until to-day the whole of Britain can be said to be bristling with anti-aircraft guns, manned by keyed-up crews eager for a chance to come into action.

It is not easy to imagine the terrific range which the best A.A. guns have, but it serves to illustrate the point that some of the guns could fire their shells at the rate of 12 a minute over the top of Mount Everest—with plenty of room to spare!

Bursting of the shell increases the range by about another 300 yards as metal splinters hurl themselves through the air.

The 4.5 guns are emplaced on fixed mountings, while the 3.7 gun which is the more favoured may be on a mobile or fixed mounting.

In its mobility the anti-aircraft battery finds one of its main advantages, for after an intense action it is possible to pack up and remove to another site so, as one authority puts it, "they may live to shoot another day."

The "ack-ack" men are all specially selected for the important job they have in hand. When the necessity for creating a defence force against air attack became a vital and urgent necessity, it was to the Territorial Army that Great Britain turned.

In the year or so before war broke out, they had been getting accustomed to their new duties.

Since that time the number of batteries has been multiplied enormously and new gun crews trained, but attached to nearly every unit there is a seasoned veteran from the ranks of the former territorial—embodied on the outbreak of war—whose experience and advice has done much to give the gunners that high efficiency which it has been proved they possess.

It has claimed that Britain's anti-aircraft defences are the most up-to-date in the world. There are many factors which go to make them so.

There is, for example, the predictor, "the wonder eye," a delicate instrument that not only calculates the position of a raider but passes information electrically to the anti-aircraft batteries.

It is uncanny the way in which it gives height, direction and speed of a raiding aircraft, thus giving the gun all the information it requires.

These are naturally delicate instruments and they need men of the right temperament to operate them. The men have to undergo a series of scientific tests before they are selected for the job. These tests—mainly designed to show whether a man is physically and mentally suited for handling the instruments—were evolved after consultation with a group of psychologists from one of Britain's leading universities.

And now for the first time there is tangible proof of what the A.A. guns can do. There have been numerous occasions when the barrage set up by the guns has been so terrific that German planes attempting to penetrate the defences have been obliged to turn back.

After The War

England, confident of victory though aware of the long and painful road to be traversed to reach it, is already thinking of her post-war problems. She thinks of them as problems of reconstruction, and looking at her damaged cities she naturally plans in terms of building up. Yet, strangely enough, some of the most urgent and difficult problems that will face not only England, but the whole Commonwealth, after victory is won will be problems of pulling down.

We shall not then be faced with a clean slate on which to write our plans of economic and social reform. In the course of the war a great and revolutionary fabric of economic organisation, at home and internationally, has been set up to cope with the problems of the war itself. It cannot be swept away by a stroke of the pen, nor can we revert by a painless process of smooth demobilisation to conditions as they were before September, 1939. Many of our most formidable and most vital problems of reconstruction emerge directly from a study of our war-time fabric. How much of it is to remain, and by what means is the rest to be demolished or rebuilt?

The State And Industry

At home, the outstanding fact is the diversion to State purposes of an immense portion of the economic effort of the country, both capital and labour, which was formerly conducted by private enterprise under the usual motives of consumers' private preference and producers' private profits. This diversion has been accompanied by the imposition of far-reaching Government control over capital and labour, and by necessary heavy increase of taxation on all classes of the community, especially those in the middle and upper income reaches.

We ought also to recall—for it is vital in considering how much of all this can remain—that much of the diversion has been rendered possible by an immense effort of saving on the part of all classes under the stimulus of a pressing patriotism which is bound to be diminished in time of peace. Virtually all this saving, moreover, has been canalised into Govern-

ment spending, all private forms of capital expansion being suspended; and this, too, is a process which cannot continue indefinitely.

We are, therefore, faced with the certainty that, in default of a complete reconstruction of our financial and economic system, some part of the fraction of the national income now being used by the State for State purposes will return to channels of private enterprise. This is not a change that can be made suddenly or without danger of serious dislocation. We know this all too well from our memories of boom and slump after the last world war. Moreover, we have to consider with all our minds how much of this State controlled effort is to remain in the hands of the State and to what purpose this residue is to be devoted.

Alongside these purely economic problems are vital social problems of town planning, education, family allowances and many others.

International Trade

In international economic affairs, the outstanding problem which will face us after the moment of victory is that of trade in raw materials and essential foodstuffs. At present, this is dominated by three factors: the shortage of shipping, the disappearance of blockaded markets, and the need of our essential war requirements by mass buying. In many cases, in order to preserve the economic life of producing countries, raw produce has been bought only in order to be stored, or even destroyed, where the circumstances of war prevent it from being economically shipped and used. Are we, in international as in internal economic affairs, to preserve a portion of this State controlled organisation when other parts of our economic system revert to private enterprise? It seems very likely that the answer is yes.

In the midst of our dangers and our necessary concentration on winning the war, it is not too early for leading minds in the British Commonwealth to be turning to these problems and seeking a solution that will meet the determination of everyone to build better for the future in the interests of the common man.



The rare and subtle character of White Horse sets it apart from any other whisky. You can tell it by its exquisite bouquet alone. But it is the perfect blending of fragrance with mellowness and smoothness which makes White Horse Whisky the equal of a fine liqueur.

The millions of gallons of finest Scotch whisky matured and maturing ensure that the quality of White Horse never varies.

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Also Other Woollen Articles
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at Reduced Prices.



COMMUNISTS APPOINTED TO PEOPLE'S COUNCIL

THE TWO MOST PROMINENT Communist leaders are included in the list of 240 councillors of the Second People's Council announced yesterday by the National Government in Chungking.

Among those appointed 90 were chosen from among those who have served for more than three years with government organs, public bodies or private institutes in any of the provinces or municipalities directly under the control of the Executive Yuan, six from Mongolia or Tibet or authorities on the political or social conditions in Mongolia or Tibet, six from among those who have resided overseas more than three years or are authorities on the problems of overseas Chinese and 138 from among those who have served for more than three years in representative cultural and economic bodies or have been long devoted to activities contributory to the national welfare.

Prominent among the councillors are Mr. Chang I-lin, Mr. Chu Fu-cheng, Mr. Mei Kwang-ti, Mr. Li Hsien-keng, Mr. Hu Yo-yu, Mr. Mo Teh-hul, Mr. Wang Chia-chen, Dr. Chen Yukuang, Mr. Tao Meng-ha, Mr. Tao Pei-chuan, Mr. Chen Shih-chuan, Dr. Chang Po-ling, Mr. Yang Chen-sheng, Mr. Tan Kah-kee, Mr. Chow Ping-lin, Mr. Tao Hsing-chih, Mr. Yang Jui-liu, Dr. Carson Chang, Mr. Kan Chieh-hao, Mr. Huang Yen-pai, Dr. W. Yen, Mr. Chin Pang-hsien, Mr. Chien Jui-sheng, Mr. Tsow Tao-fen, Dr. Alfred Sao-ke Sze, Mr. Chang Tung-hsun, Mr. Shen Chun-ju, Mr. Y. M. Chien, Mr. Chen Shao-yu, Mr. Han Li-wu, Mr. Lo Lung-chi, Mr. Cheng Hsi-meng, Mr. Chang Chung-fu, Mr. Tso Hsun-sheng, General Mao Tse-tung, Mr. Lin Tzu-hsien, Mr. Chang Shih-chao, Mr. James Yen, Mr. Liang Shih-chiu, Mr. Fu Ssu-nien, Dr. Lo Wen-kan, Mr. Chung Wing-kwong, Mr. Kiang Yung, Mr. Wang Yun-wu, Mr. Chen Po-sheng, Mr. Liang Shu-ming, Mr. Liu Cheh, Dr. Paul Yu Pin, Mr. Aw Boon-haw, Mr. Chang Chi-chun, Dr. Wang Hsiao-lai, Mr. Kiang I-ping, Mr. Tung Kuan-hsien, and Mr. Hsiao I-shan.

Fifteen councillors are women. They are Miss Wu Chih-mei, Miss Lo Heng, Miss Shih Liang, Miss Tao Hsuan, Dr. Wu Yi-fang, Miss Chang Siao-mei, Miss Wang Li-ming, Miss Liu Heng-ching, Miss Liang Chao, Miss Chen Yiyun, Miss Tseng Pao-sun, Miss Chieh Yung-ho, Miss Lu Yun-chang, Miss Chang Wei-chen, and Miss Hsieh Ping-hsin.—Central News.

EMPIRE AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

The Empire air training scheme in Canada is well ahead of schedule; this was revealed yesterday by Col. J. L. Ralston, Canadian Minister of Defence, who is visiting England for discussions with the Government and military authorities.

In an interview with Reuter Col. Ralston said the air training scheme called for 104 schools and institutions of various sorts by next autumn.

"I am in a position to say that these establishments will be completed six months earlier than the programme."

Canada, he said, would be spending on the scheme three times more than was called for and the number of graduates from air training establishments would be doubled.

United Wholeheartedly

Plans for aerodrome development would be completed before Dec. 31.

The flow of airmen from Canada, compared with what was called for, was most satisfactory.

"I can assure you, as I have assured Mr. Churchill and members of the United Kingdom Government, that Canada is united wholeheartedly—as Canada never was before—in every activity that will help in connection with the war effort."—Reuter.

Making Pledges Good

Canada, said the Minister, is making good all its pledges to Britain in the war effort.

As long ago as October there were 50,000 Canadian soldiers outside Canada and over 100,000 in Canada and since then there had been a considerable increase.

Factories which have turned to aircraft production are working at full pressure and are turning out types of aeroplanes which are in common use with the R.A.F. and were up to expected numbers.

As for the Canadian Navy, at the outbreak of war there were 1,700 officers in service and two thousands in reserve; by next Spring there will be 23,000 altogether. Six destroyers—part of the fifty—the transfer of which was recently arranged—are in the Canadian Navy.

Col. Ralston added that Canada's industries are working at top pressure to provide those vital supplies of equipment and stores which will ease the situation—already being alleviated by Britain's own effort—which faced her after Dunkirk. Britain's own effort—

SIR JOHN LATHAM AT IMPERIAL PALACE

Sir John Latham presented his credentials when he was received in audience by the Japanese Emperor this morning.

Sir John was also granted an audience by the Empress. — Reuter.

RAID ON SERVANTS' QUARTERS

The servants' quarters in the basement of No. 16, Cameron Road, were raided by the police last night.

The place was alleged to have been kept as a gambling den, where "Tse Fa" was played.

Before Mr. E. Himsforth this morning, three "keepers" were each fined \$40 or one month, and three gamblers were fined \$1.

The raid was carried out by a party under Det.-Sgt. Bethell at about 10 o'clock last night.

TAILOR AND A REVOLVER

Chu Cheung-wing, 24, tailor, was charged before Mr. H. G. Sheldon, K.C., this morning, with possession of an automatic pistol and four rounds of ammunition, at Shan Kwong Road on Sunday. He was remanded for 72 hours for further enquiries. Detective Sub-Inspector W. N. Darkin is in charge of the case.



Would you clean your teeth with PUMICE?

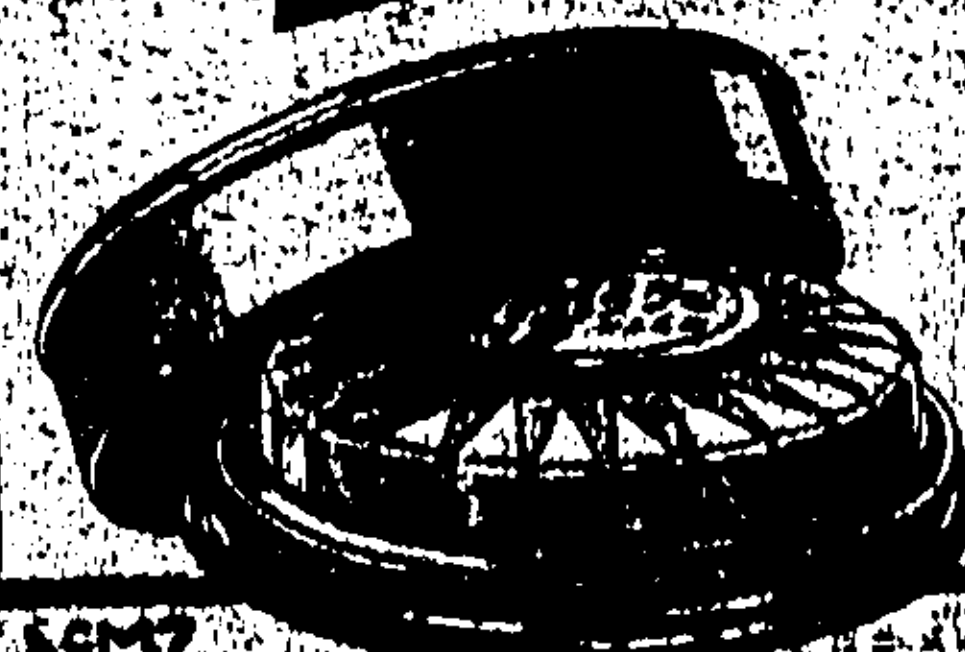
You wouldn't dream of cleaning your teeth with pumice stone, because you know its gritty particles would soon destroy the fine enamel. Yet you may even now be using a harsh tooth-cleaner which is just as destructive.

HARSH TOOTH-CLEANERS HAVE THE SAME EFFECT AS PUMICE

They scratch the teeth, roughen them all there is no shine left. Don't let this happen to you! Keep your teeth bright and shining with Gibbs.

Give your teeth a SHINE

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Dentifrice. Its special polishing ingredient, which cannot possibly scratch, will bring a new brilliance to your teeth after only two or three days' use. And its penetrating foam ensures that they are kept healthy and absolutely clean, as well as making your whole mouth feel fresh. Gibbs is the most thorough dentifrice, but it is also the most gentle.



GREATEST TRAGEDY OF LONDON RAIDS

By HILDE MARCHANT

THE GREATEST BOMBING TRAGEDY IN THE WHOLE OF LONDON HAPPENED ON SUNDAY NIGHT. A BOMB OF TREMENDOUS SIZE HIT A BLOCK OF FLATS, TRAPPING MANY PEOPLE IN THE BASEMENT SHELTER, BURYING THEM UNDER THEIR OWN HOMES.

I looked in this gaping hole in a London street, and thought that, under this heap of rubbish and stone, innocent lives had ended.

Above, a huge automatic excavator was drawing away the wreckage of homes that buried people under the tombstone of their own lives—chairs and pans and blankets, things they had used a few hours before, mixed among the tumbled masonry.

The wardens, stretcher bearers, rescue parties had worked through the night. Every half-hour or so they heard a murmur below, and sometimes they dragged a breath of life from it.

I saw one man being lowered into an ambulance with his leg twisted.

And I was told of a couple who stood weeping on the pavement for their only son—and then suddenly in the darkness a child was put in their arms crying, "Mummy, Daddy."

A doctor crawled through the debris in the early hours of the morning and gave morphia to a woman half-buried. Nurses stood by him and helped the rescue-workers as other people were brought out.

They tended wounds there on the spot, bathing and dressing the injured, though guns were going on around.

The Odd Chance

A child was found wandering over the debris, choked with dirt and falling, not knowing where she was.

A woman came out, dazed, and with her face slashed; she stayed for hours guiding the men working on the debris.

It was a good shelter, reinforced and deep. But with that odd chance of a hundred, the bomb smashed and closed the exits. The water and gas pipes broke.

When the rescue parties arrived they tried to clear the entrances, but as they made a tunnel, masonry collapsed and filled it. They went on digging.

The organisation round this ruin was magnificent. Everything that could help was at hand. The workmen and wardens—the soldiers of London—went on as bombs slapped around them. They worked all through the night raid.

When I arrived, I saw a picture that will stay in my mind all my life. There was a group of men in blue dungarees, standing over a deep hole, tapping the bricks.

They walked in silence. Then some answer came, so they dug again.

They rescued fifty-seven people.

I wondered what sound you would send to show where you were, when your life hung on it. The answer that came was: "We're still breathing."

It was like those hideous nights at a pithead when a murmur from the depths revives the crowd around. The ambulance drew in as the men lifted another living soul from the debris. It was a woman.

Debris On Shelter

A man in the rescue squad wiped plaster out of his eye and took a breath, and said: "I'd like to ring his ruddy neck, only it's too quick a death for him. He'll get worse."

No need to say who the "he" is.

A girl in a Salvation Army canteen made tea for the workmen, day and night. She stood in her van on the edge of the pit, as the stretchers passed by, making tea and serving orange buns.

I talked to a shelter-mother

who had been in the adjoining shelter. His people behaved very well. Heavy debris fell on their shelter, but they marched out and went right away, so the rescue workers could have a clear field.

The people who escaped from the flats were greatly shaken, yet one man I met put his wife in another shelter and went off to his job in the afternoon.

"What am I to do?" he said. "I can't help here, and I can help in my job."

I cannot forget what I saw those men whispering into the ruins. I felt that a new Cenotaph had gone up over the ruins. We shall not forget.

PETAIN'S APPEAL

AN APPEAL FOR THE RESTORATION OF "IMPARTIALITY, FIRMNESS, DISCIPLINE AND HONOUR" IN ALL RANKS OF THE FRENCH COLONIAL SERVICE, WAS MADE BY ADMIRAL PLATON, MINISTER FOR COLONIES, YESTERDAY.

In a circular to colonial governors, Platon urges: "In the exercise of your authority let all your acts be inspired by the duty which devolves on all Frenchmen to take part with vigour and confidence in the work of national rehabilitation laid down by Marshal Petain." — Reuter.

WEATHER REPORT

The Royal Observatory reports that the anticyclone over North China is increasing in intensity and extending southward.

The depression has deepened very considerably, and is passing into the Pacific to the east of Hokkaido.

Pressure remains relatively low over Tongking.

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—TUESDAY—

DECEMBER 24th, 1940.

CHRISTMAS DAY

—WEDNESDAY—

DECEMBER 25th, 1940.

BOXING DAY

—THURSDAY—

DECEMBER 26th, 1940.

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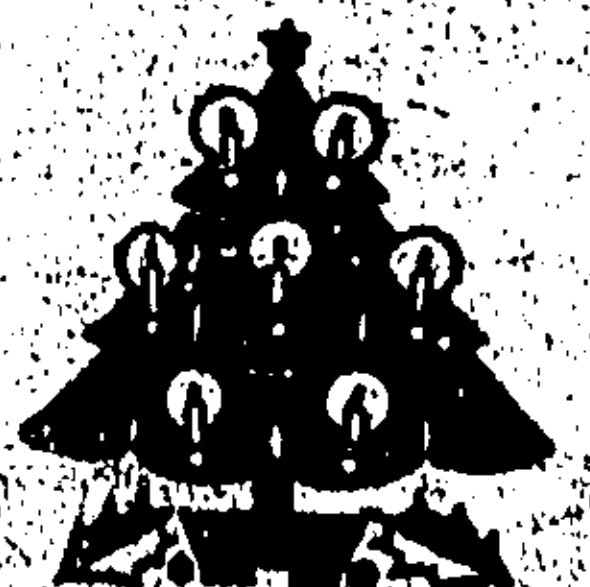
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PUBLIC AUCTION

The Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction on

TUESDAY, 24th. December, 1940 commencing at 12.45 p.m. at their Sales Room, No. 2, Connaught Road, Central, Room No. 205, Second Floor

A Shipment of Lionel Electric Trains and Accessories

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Hong Kong, 23rd Dec., 1940.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

BANK HOLIDAYS

In accordance with Government Ordinance, the Exchange Banks will be Closed for the Transaction of Public Business on Wednesday, and Thursday, the 25th and 26th December, 1940, (Christmas Holidays).

Hong Kong, 23rd Dec., 1940.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Kindly note that as from 30th DECEMBER, 1940, our New Office Address will be:—

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BRIDGE NOTES

By The Four Aces CRIME DOESN'T PAY! NO. 23

We saw this crime committed, and promptly wrote it down for our sleuths. We'll save you some time by admitting that the crime was in the bidding; but it's up to you to determine just where the straight and narrow path was deserted:

South, Dealer
Neither side vulnerable

♠ A 3 2
♥ 5 3
♦ 10 8 6 5
♣ Q 8 5 3
♠ 8 7 3
♥ K Q 9 8
♦ 4
♣ A 10 8 3
♠ K 8
♥ J 10 8
♦ K 7 4
♣ K J 7 6
♠ Q J 10 5 4
♥ A 7 2
♦ A Q J 8 3
♣ —

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♦	2♥	3♦	3♥
4♦	Pass	Pass	Pass

South contended that he couldn't bid five diamonds because North might have held some small spades and the Ace of clubs instead of what he actually held; and then South would surely lose a couple of spades and a heart. North maintained that he couldn't bid five diamonds because he had already made two bids with only one Ace and one Queen in his hand — and not even a singleton or other remarkable distribution.

Obviously, however, two good bidders should get to a game which depends only on one successful finesse out of two. Decide for yourself who was to blame before you read on.

South was the criminal, and his crime consisted in bidding four diamonds. His correct bid was three spades. If North happened to be short in spades, he could bid four diamonds; so trying a spade rebid couldn't really cost anything. That three-spade bid would give North a really difficult decision. But, being a fine player, he would have bid four spades on the theory that South was prepared for four diamonds and should have some play for four spades, as long as the suit was almost as good a fit as diamonds. The contract of four spades, of course, is just as easy to make as five diamonds and a great deal easier to bid.

Yesterday you were Oswald Jacoby's partner and, with neither side vulnerable you held:

THE NEW FRENCH REMEDY.
THERAPION No. 1
THERAPION No. 2
THERAPION No. 3
DR. L. C. GILBERT'S PILLS FOR THE LIVER
& KIDNEYS—weak kidneys & bladder.

The bidding:
Jacoby 1♠
Schenken 1♥
You 1♥
Maler 1♥
Pass (1)
Pass (1)
Pass (1)

ANSWER: Bid three hearts. Game should be easily made even if your partner has only a minimum opening bid; and if he has more, your bid allows him to suggest a slam without much risk. Score 100% for three hearts; 50% for four hearts; 20% for two no-trump.

Question No. 597

To-day you are Howard Schenken's partner and, with neither side vulnerable, you hold:

♠ K 7
♥ J 5 3 2
♦ A J 8 5
♣ 5 4 3

The bidding:
Schenken 1♠
Maler 1♥
You 1♥
Jacoby 1♥
Pass (1)
Pass (1)

What do you bid? (Answer Thursday.)
(Released by The Bell Syndicate, Inc.)



The person who says he is going to give you a little advice generally weighs you down with more than you can take.

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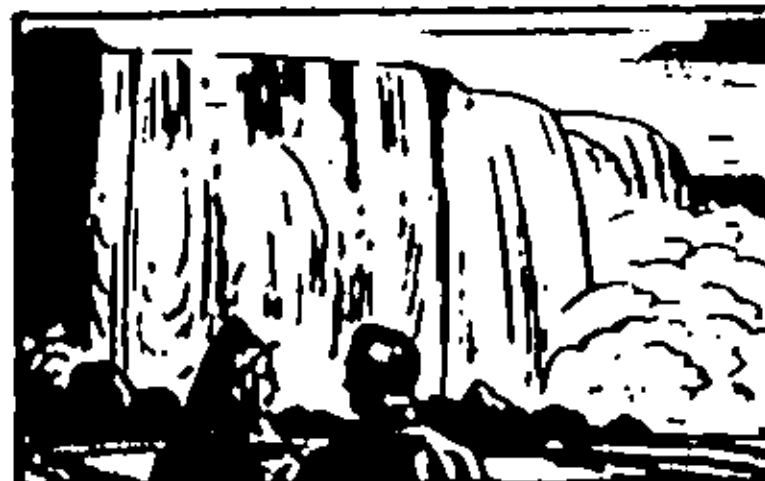


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BOMBAY & KARACHI via Singapore, Penang and Colombo. Melbourne Maru 25th Dec.
CALCUTTA via Saigon, Singapore, Belawan Deli and Rangoon.
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S.S. PRESIDENT TYLER January 9
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MAILS

The Parcel Post Service to Canton has been resumed.

Small Packet Post to all countries is suspended.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS
On Wednesday, 25th December, and Thursday, 26th December, the General Post Office and Branch Post Offices will be open as follows:—

Wednesday, 25th Thursday, 26th
General Post Office
8 a.m. to 10 a.m. 8 a.m. to noon
Kowloon Central P.O.
8 a.m. to 10 a.m. 8 a.m. to noon
Sheungwan Branch P.O.
8 a.m. to 9 a.m. 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.
All other Branch Post Offices and Money Order Office will be entirely closed during the Holidays.

There will be one collection from the pillar boxes each day as on Sundays and one delivery of registered and ordinary correspondence at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, 25th and at 11.30 a.m. on Thursday, the 26th.

There will also be one delivery of ordinary correspondence each day at 11.00 a.m. from the Branch Post Office at Stanley, Taiipo and Un Long.

INWARD MAILS

TUESDAY

Air Mail by "British Overseas Airways Service" by sea from Singapore, London and Straits

WEDNESDAY

Canton
London and Straits

THURSDAY

U.S.A., Honolulu, Japan and Shanghai (San Francisco date, 6th December).
U.S.A., Honolulu and Manila (San Francisco date, 3rd December).

FRIDAY

Air Mail by "Pan-American Airways Direct Service"—San Francisco date, 17th December.
Java and Manila.

SATURDAY

Swatow

FOR DATE & TIME

OUTWARD MAILS

TUESDAY

Straits, Ceylon, India, East and South Africa 3.30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Manila, Batavia and Sourabaya 8.30 a.m.
Canton Noon.

THURSDAY

Air Mail by sea to Singapore to connect with the "British Overseas Airways." K.P.O. & G.P.O.
Reg. 11.30 a.m.
Ord. Noon.

Ceylon, India, Aden and Egypt. Noon.
Straits Noon.

FRIDAY

Sandakan 8.30 a.m.
Straits, Rangoon and Calcutta.
Par. (26) Noon.
Let. (27) 9.30 a.m.

Air Mail by Air to Rangoon to connect with the "British Overseas Airways." K.P.O. & G.P.O.

Reg. 4.00 p.m.
Ord. 4.30 p.m.
Shanghai, Japan, Honolulu, U.S.A., Canada, Central and South America and "United Kingdom via San Francisco"

K.P.O. 4.00 p.m.
Parcels 5.00 p.m.
Reg. 5.30 p.m.
Ord. 5.30 p.m.

G.P.O. 4.00 p.m.
Parcels 5.00 p.m.
Reg. 7.00 p.m.
Ord. 7.00 p.m.

Air Mail for Manila, Guam, Honolulu, U.S.A. and Europe via "Pan-American Airways and Trans-Atlantic Service" (No parcels for Canada and United Kingdom).

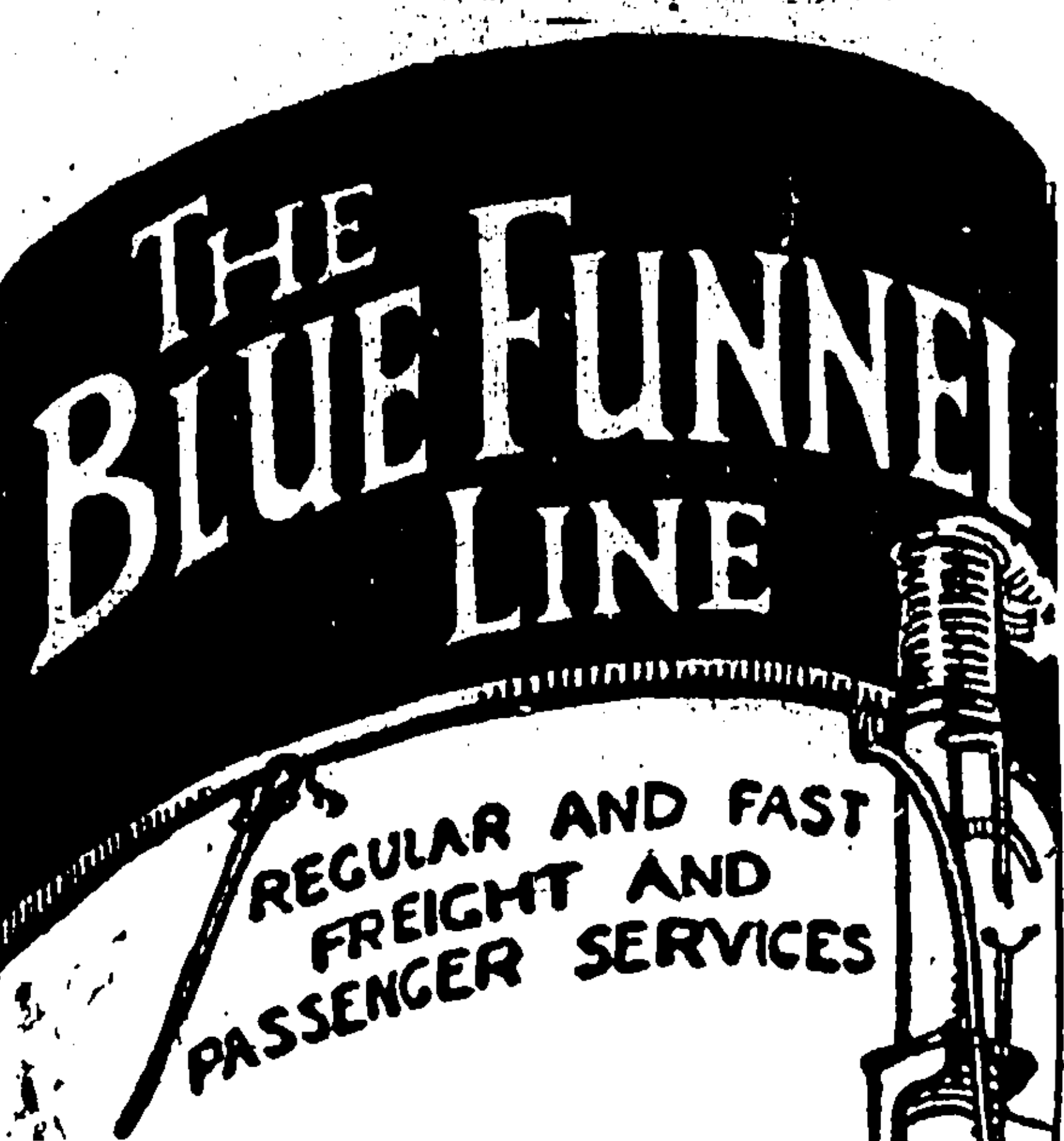
K.P.O. 5.00 p.m.
Reg. 5.30 p.m.
Ord. 5.30 p.m.

G.P.O. 5.00 p.m.
Reg. 7.00 p.m.
Ord. 7.00 p.m.

* Superscribed Correspondence Only.

RADIO

12.30 p.m.—Mantovani and His Orchestra in Dance Music.
1.03 p.m.—London Palladium Orchestra and Miliza Korjus (Soprano).
1.30 p.m.—Reuter and Rugby Press. Weather Forecast and Announcements.
1.45 p.m.—Variety.
2.32 p.m.—Dance Music.
2.00 p.m.—London Relay—The News.
2.15 p.m.—London Relay—Questions of the Hour.
2.30 p.m.—Variety.
3.03 p.m.—Vocal Programme.
3.30 p.m.—Orchestral Selections.
4.00 p.m.—London Relay—The News and News Commentary.
4.30 p.m.—London Relay—Talks 'Scots Abroad'.
4.45 p.m.—Corelli—Concerto Grosso in G Minor ("Christmas Concerto").
5.00 p.m.—Studio—An Abridged Version of Dickens' "Christmas Carol".
5.30 p.m.—Hutchinson—A Noel Fantasy from "A Carol Symphony".
6.00 p.m.—Royal Command Performance.



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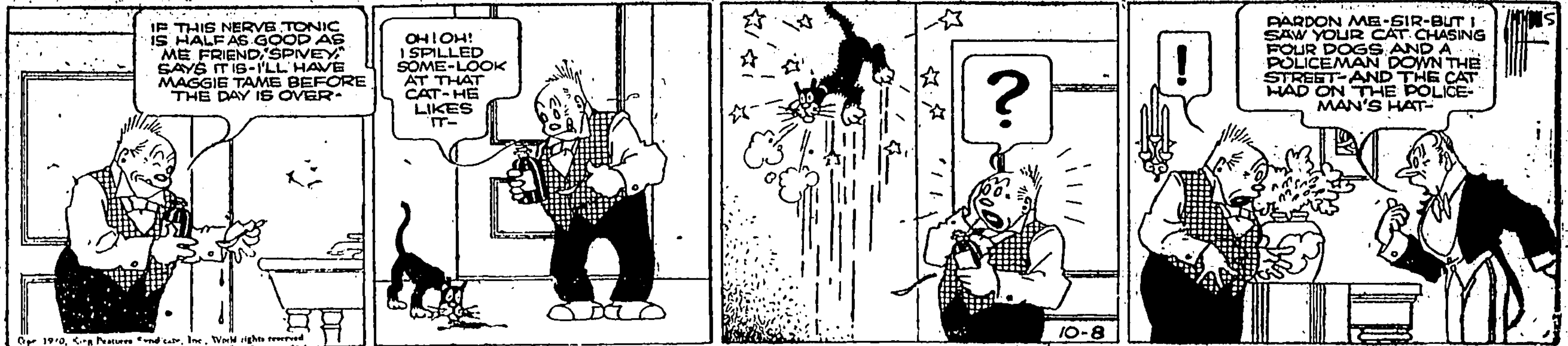
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WEEK-END FOOTBALL FIXTURES

Following is this week-end's Football programme:

Saturday

FIRST DIVISION
Kowloon v South China (Kowloon, 4.00 p.m.)
Club v St. Joseph's (St. Joseph's, 4.00 p.m.)
R. Scots v Eastern (Sookunpoo, 4.00 p.m.)
Middlesex v Navy (Boundary Street, 4.00 p.m.)
SECOND DIVISION
30th R.A. v Service Corps (Stanley, 4.00 p.m.)
Kowloon v South China (Kowloon, 2.30 p.m.)
Club v Engineers (St. Joseph's, 2.30 p.m.)
Middlesex v Navy (Military, 2.30 p.m.)
R. Scots v Ordnance (Sookunpoo, 2.30 p.m.)
THIRD DIVISION
36th R.A. v Engineers (Chatham Road, 2.30 p.m.)
Shell v 24th R.A. (Chatham Road, 4.00 p.m.)
20th R.A. v 35th R.A. (Chatham Road, 4.00 p.m.)

Sunday

FIRST DIVISION
Sing Tao v Kwong Wah (Club, 4.00 p.m.)
SECOND DIVISION
Sing Tao v Kwong Wah (Club, 2.30 p.m.)
Police v Kit Chee (Boundary Street, 4.00 p.m.)
THIRD DIVISION
12th R.A. v A.S.A. (Sookunpoo, 2.30 p.m.)
R.A.M.C. v 7th R.A. (Sookunpoo, 4.00 p.m.)
Air Force v Service Corps (Boundary Street, 2.30 p.m.)
International v Signals (Caroline Hill, 2.30 p.m.)

LOCAL SHARES

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4% Loan \$97½ sa.
BANKS
Bank of East Asia \$74 b.
INSURANCES
Canton Ins. \$200 b.
Union Ins. \$400 b.
H.K. Fire Ins. \$157½ b.
DOCKS, WHARVES, GODOWNS, ETC.
H.K. and K. Wharves \$93 b., \$95 s.
Providents \$5.70 b., \$5.70 sa.
LANDS, HOTELS & BLDGS.
H.K. and S. Hotels \$3.55 b., \$3.70 s., \$3.85 sa.
H.K. Lands \$33.60 b.
H.K. Realities \$3.80 b.
PUBLIC UTILITIES
H.K. Tramways \$17.70 b., \$18 s., \$17.80 sa.
Star Ferries \$61 b.
Yaumatei Ferries \$24 b.
China Lights (O.d.) \$6.80 b., X.D. C. Rts.
Sandakan Lights \$11.30 b.
INDUSTRIALS
Cements \$18½ sa.
H.K. Ropes \$7.10 b.
STORES, &C.
Dairy Farms \$19¼ s.
Watsons \$10½ b., \$10.70 s., \$10½ sa.
COTTON MILLS
Shanghai Cottons Sh. \$180 b.
MISCELLANEOUS
Entertainments \$7 b.

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R. A. CAMIDGE, Manager

BRITISH WAR PLANS

"I CAN ASSURE YOU AS I HAVE ASSURED MR. CHURCHILL THAT CANADA IS UNITED AS NEVER BEFORE IN EVERY ACTIVITY THAT WILL HELP THE WAR EFFORT," SAID THE CANADIAN DEFENCE MINISTER YESTERDAY. HE IS ON A SHORT VISIT TO BRITAIN.

His mission, he said, is to learn the conditions under which the Battle of Britain is being fought and to discuss with the Canadian Commander-in-Chief details of the administration and training of the Canadian troops, and particularly cooperation with the forces of the United Kingdom.

He has consulted members of the Government of the United Kingdom about British war plans, both present and future. — Reuter.

Constructions (Old) \$1.60 b.
Vibro Piling \$7.70 s.

LAST DAY'S SALES
\$7,000 Govt. 4% Loan @ \$97½
36 Bank of E. Asia @ \$75
2,500 Providents @ \$5.70
500 Hotels @ \$3.65
500 Trams @ \$17.80
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HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

Authorised Capital \$50,000,000
Issued and Fully Paid-up \$20,000,000
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THE BANK OF EAST ASIA, LTD.

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PHILIP GOCKCHIN, Chief Manager.

Harvey Promoted Sets R.A.F. Poser Now Ranks As Pilot-Officer

GOLF STARTING TIMES

Following are Royal Hong Kong Golf Club starting times for Fanling:—

CHRISTMAS DAY

Old Course	New Course
9.16 a.m. R. Young, G. C. Workall,	9.24 a.m. H. N. Williamson, G. R. Horridge.
9.20 .. A. Sommerfelt, K. S. Morrison.	
9.24 .. A. M. Mack, L. Goldman.	
9.28 .. I. H. Geare, G. M. Park.	
9.32 .. K. S. Robertson, H. H. Mundy.	
9.36 .. Capt. Thursby, M. S. Banner.	
9.40 .. R. G. Parker, R. M. M. King.	
9.44 .. J. B. Harrison, M. A. Annett.	
9.48 .. A. L. Landsbert, W. Stoker.	
9.52 .. W. A. Stewart, T. Low.	
9.56 .. R. P. Morris, H. A. Mills.	
10.00 .. L. M. S. Lloyd, S. L. Lloyd.	
10.04 .. T. J. Price, G. E. R. Divett.	

BOXING DAY

Old Course	New Course
9.16 a.m. A. Pollard, A. H. McBridge.	9.24 a.m. Mrs. Rowell, J. C. Brown.
9.20 .. F. A. Dinsdale, M. A. Annett.	10.16 .. F. A. M. Elliott, E. L. Groome.
9.24 .. D. L. Prophet, Capt. Thursby.	10.20 .. J. C. C. Matthews, R. G. Parker.
9.28 .. I. H. Geare, J. A. D. Morrison.	10.32 .. Major Godley, R. D. Gillespie.
9.32 .. W. Sharp, J. M. Thomson.	
9.36 .. F. McLeod, J. D. Thomson.	
9.40 .. L. A. R. Duncan, J. Hackney.	
9.44 .. E. G. Price, T. Megarry.	
9.48 .. Major Giles, F. D. Hunter.	
9.52 .. A. M. Mack, R. C. Gardner.	
9.56 .. Lt. Col. Macpherson, G. W. Reeve.	
10.00 .. W. W. C. Shewan, D. S. Edward.	
10.04 .. R. M. M. King, C. H. D. Curtoys.	

THE ROYAL AIR FORCE has probably more famous sporting personalities in their ranks than any of the other services.

They can put football, cricket and rugby teams of international strength into the field, and they have a good sprinkling of leading boxers.

The latest to join the ranks is Ernie Roderick, the Liverpool holder of the British welterweight championship, who has passed his medical and is awaiting his call-up. Other members of the cauliflower-ear industry now in the R.A.F. are heavyweight champion Len Harvey, now promoted to Pilot Officer; Eric Boon, lightweight champion; Peter Kane, former bantamweight champion; the three London stars, Kid Berg, Dave Crowley and Jackie Rankin, and Corporal Freddie Mills, the Bournemouth light-heavyweight, who recently beat the reigning middleweight champion, Jock McAvoy.

Awkward Situation

Len Harvey's promotion means that there is the prospect of a N.C.O. fighting a senior officer in public for money. Mills considers himself good enough for a shot at the British cruiserweight title and he has issued a challenge.

This sets a poser for the military powers that be. Normally, officers do not trade punches with other ranks, it being the practice to divide the classes into separate amateur competitions. But the situation is a little different in this case. Both Harvey and Mills are professionals; fighting is their living.—Reuter.

B. Agafuroff, who bought Grand Allegiance, the 1940 Australian pony at the rump held in the Jockey Club Paddock on Thursday, intends sending it to Fanling for a prolonged rest.

SUNDAY'S CRICKET CANCELLED

Owing to the fact that a softball game has been arranged for Sunday afternoon, the whole-day cricket match between Recreation and No. 3 (Machine Gun) Company of H.K.V.D.C. has been cancelled.

ANOTHER DEFEAT FOR CHINESE 'Y'

Chinese Y.M.C.A., who last year played off with University for the championship, lost what little chance they had of challenging University "A" again this year when they went down badly to University "B" in "A" Division of the Badminton League last night, by 7-2.

T. T. Chin and F. L. Yung were in great form for the undergraduates to win all three games, and the other two pairs each dropped only one game.

Patrick Wong, three-fold Colony champion, was outclassed and only managed to win one game for Chinese Y.M.C.A.

C. K. Cheuk and K. B. Liu (Univ. "B").	lost to P. H. Wong and T. W. Wong	17-21
beat C. Au and H. Ko	21-8	
beat F. Ko and C. Y. Yung	21-10	
S. Amplanavar and A. P. Lee (Univ. "B").	beat Wong and Wong	21-17
lost to Au and Ko	17-21	
beat Ko and Yung	21-12	
T. T. Chin and F. L. Yung (Univ. "B").	beat Wong and Wong	21-5
beat Au and Ko	21-12	
beat Ko and Yung	21-14	

THURSDAY'S SOFTBALL "CLASSIC"

Entertainment of a high order is expected at Kowloon Football Club on Boxing Day, when two of the "classiest" softball matches of the season will be staged.

First game will start at 10.30 a.m., Christmas night permitting, and will be between Over 40's and Under 40's. Judging by some of the names—nick and otherwise—both sides will be very well equipped but having regard to the fact that the Over 40's have two players and a mascot and are all possessed of nick-names, apparently an essential to successful ball-playing, they should win! However, no bet is being offered by this corner!

After this epic affair, the Kowloon Police "Kops" are expected to be taken for a ride, presumably in "Black Maria" by a representative team of "Kops". We are reliably informed that there is no truth in the rumour that the Kops have indentured for military protection.

ARMY SPORTLIGHT

By "SQUADDY"

TO-DAY at Sookunpoo the Middlesex Regiment will play the Combined Small Units in the Area Hockey League for Large Units, bully off 4.30 p.m.

The undermentioned will represent Middlesex—L/C. Winfield, Pte. Stickley and L/C. Pain-ting; F.S.M. Ure, Sgt. Crowley and L/Sgt. Waldron; L/C. Moggeridge, Bds. Hymas, L/C. Bright, Pte. Sheehan and Pte. Jackson.

Reserves—Dr. Klintworth and Pte. Caul. Engineers lost by three goals to one to Recreation in the Hong Kong Hockey League tournament at Sookunpoo on Sunday morning after sharing two goals at the interval, Shaw scoring the Sappers only goal.

In a friendly game at King's Park on Saturday, Royal Corps of Signals lost to Y.M.C.A. by two clear goals. Signals' outstanding players were Price at inside-right, who was prominent both with his individual play and his combination with Spare and Cpl. Blount also did well in the forward-line.

Cpl. Gorman, playing in the pivotal position, was more prominent in the second half; in the first he could not settle down and was wandering too much.

The following are results to date in the Large Units Hockey League—

FIRST ROUND		SECOND ROUND	
8th Hvy. Regt. 2	12th Hvy. Regt. 2	5th A.A. Regt. 1	8th Hvy. Regt. 0
Punjab Regt. 1	5th A.A. Regt. 1	12th Hvy. Regt. 1	Combined S.U. 1
Middlesex 4	Engineers 1	H.K.R.S.A. 2	Punjab Regt. 2
Combined S.U. 1	Royal Scots 1	Rajput Regt. 1	Engineers 1
		Middlesex 5	Royal Scots 0

LEAGUE TABLE	
	P. W. L. D. Pts.
Middlesex Regt.	2 2 0 0 4
5th A.A. Regt.	2 1 0 1 3
Rajput Regt.	1 1 0 0 2
12th Hvy. Regt.	2 0 0 2 2
Punjab Regt.	2 0 0 2 2
Combined Small Units.	2 0 0 2 2
H.K.R.S.A.	1 0 0 1 1
8th Hvy. Regt.	2 0 1 1 1
Royal Scots	2 0 1 1 1
Engineers	2 0 2 0 0

It is good to see that three Service players from junior football have been selected to represent the Football Association on New Year's day at Sookunpoo against the Chinese.

Two senior players have also been picked. The following are the Army players selected—Sgt. Freshwater (Middlesex), Pte. Sheehan (Middlesex), Spr. Fox (R.E.), and Sgt. Owens (24th R.A.).

Sgt. Owens, who will be playing on the right-wing, gave an excellent performance on Sunday in the Charity matches. He played in both games, owing to the players for the second match not all turning up. He is very speedy on the wing and centres the ball well. He played a great game with Fox, the centre-forward.

THE Middlesex Regiment held their Novices Inter-Company Boxing tournament last week, and the finals were held on Friday with "A" Company winning easily, having five men in the finals, and winning the following weights: Lightweight, Middleweight, Light-Heavyweight, and Welterweight. They also had the runner-up in the Heavyweight.

Lieut. R. W. H. Willoughby, Heavyweight, put up a plucky performance against Pte. Cheny. He was K.O'd in the second round, after being saved by the gong in the first round. He had fought a hard fight the night previous.

Best fight of the evening was between Pte. Byford, "A" Coy., and Pte. Coleman, "H.Q." Coy. Byford won after a very hard fight, and both boxers were congratulated at the end of the fight on a very good performance.

In the final of the Lightweight Pte. Cooper, of "A" Coy., knocked out Pte. Roberts of "C" Coy.

The Middleweight final was won by Pte. Burdge, "A" Coy., who beat Pte. Hogan, "C" Coy.

Pte. Grafton, "A" Coy., beat Pte. Langan, "B" Coy. These two were evenly matched and there was not much between them.

The Featherweight final was a good fight between Pte. Macey, "C" Coy., and Pte. Hills, "D" Coy., with Macey having a slight advantage in points.

In the Bantamweight final Pte. Winter and Pte. Anderson were evenly matched, and there was not much to choose between them, Anderson winning on points.

A good fight was witnessed in a special contest, Welterweight, between L/C. McGready of the

Royal Scots and Pte. Etkin of the Middlesex Regt. L/C. McGready was the winner on points. Pte. Noble of "D" Coy. Middlesex beat L/C. Smith, "A" Coy. Middlesex in a special contest in the Lightweight series. Noble is very quick, has good footwork and should do well in the Army Opens.

IN the Garrison Billiards Tournaments Pte. Whybro of the R.A.M.C. has the highest breaks in both the billiards and snooker competitions, with 33 for Billiards and 32 for Snooker.

Cpl. Harvey of the Medical Corps completely outplayed Pte. Gordon of the Royal Scots, last year's winner of the Individuals Billiards Championship, last week by 250 points to 171.

The undermentioned are the remaining players left in the Individuals Billiards Championship: Cpl. Harvey (R.A.M.C.), B.S.M. Rawlings (R.A.), Q.M.S. Wood (R.A.S.C.) and Pte. Whybro (R.A.M.C.).

In the Snooker Individual Championship the following are still interested: Lieut. M. V. Dixon (R.A.M.C.), Q.M.S. Wood (R.A.S.C.), Cpl. Harvey (R.A.M.C.) and Pte. Milne (Royal Scots).

Cpl. Harvey is the strongest favourite for both competitions and I think that he will pull off the double.

In the League Royal Army Medical Corps have played 14 games and won all.

BASEBALL FIELDING RECORD

Frankie Pytlak, star catcher whom the Cleveland Indians traded to the Boston Red Sox recently, has established a new Major League record for consecutive chances without an error, official American League fielding records released showed.

Pytlak handled 571 chances without errors between September 10, 1938, and September 18, 1940, compared to the former record of 452 chances without an error made by Leo "Gabby" Hartnett, Chicago Cubs long-time ace who moves to the New York Polo Grounds next year as a coach, under Manager William "Bill" Terry.

Fielding picked up generally in the American League last Season, the field average rising one point. Double plays increased by twelve to 1,195 and there were 22 fewer errors, with a total of 1,443. The New York Yankees and the Indians tied for fielding honours each attaining an average of .975.—United Press.

ARMY CRICKET ELEVEN

The undermentioned have been selected to represent the Army against Hong Kong Cricket Club at Chater Road on Saturday, commencing at 2.00 p.m.—

2/Lieut. T. A. Pearce, R.A. (Captain); 2/Lieut. J. L. C. Pearce, R.A., Captain; P. J. T. Skipworth, R.A., 3/Sergeant F. Megson, R.E., Private Bateman, R.S., Private Hatfield, Middlesex Regt., Sgt. Webb, R.A.M.C., L/Corpl. Logan, R.A.S.C., Sgt. French, R.A.S.C., L/Corpl. Murphy, R.A. of S., and Signall, Dixon, R.C. of S. Scorer:—Corpl. Musson, R.A.M.C. Umpire:—Sergeant, Clarke, R.E.

H.K.C.C. Selections

The following teams have been selected to represent H.K.C.C.—

28th December at 2 p.m. v The Army:—Lt. Owen Hughes (Capt.), G. J. P. Carey, G. P. Charlton, A. J. Dewar, W. G. Finnie, J. L. Halsey, T. G. C. Knight, E. G. C. Knight, E. P. Miller, D. O. Parsons, L. T. Ride and C. D. N. Walker.

SINCERE'S CHRISTMAS BAZAAR



BRING KIDDIES ROUND TO SEE SANTA CLAUS BEFORE HE LEAVES TO-NIGHT AT "AQUALAND"

STORE REMAINS OPEN TO-DAY TILL 11 P.M.

THE SINCERE CO., LTD.
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BRITISH SPORTSMEN KILLED IN SERVICES

RUGBY PLAYERS once again figure prominently in the latest lists of war casualties, as many as five prominent players having been killed.

The game has lost a brilliant young centre three-quarter in Lieut. John Harrison, of the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, whose death from wounds has been reported. Harrison was with the late Prince Obolensky, the England and Oxford wing three-quarter, in the Trent College team, which in 1933-34, scored 539 points against 22.

After leaving school Harrison captained Sandhurst and played for Surrey before joining the Army. His Services Rugby attracted the England selectors, and he was chosen as reserve centre for England. He also played for Rosslyn Park.

Another former captain of the Rugby XV at Sandhurst, 2nd-Lieut. M. G. Johnson, M.C., has recently been reported killed by enemy action. He captained Sandhurst three years ago.

Acting Squadron-Leader Michael Fitzwilliam Peacock, the Oxford Rugby Blue and former Richmond captain who was reported missing is now believed to have been killed in action in the Arras-Cambrai sector in May. He was awarded the D.F.C. in February.

Accidental Death

Lieut. H. Greenwood, whose death at Wantage Cottage Hospital, Berkshire, following an accident, is announced, was a member of the Leicestershire and East Midlands XV which defeated the South Africans at Leicester in the 1931-32 season. He played in an England trial while assisting Leicester and also played for Bedford, his native town. He volunteered for the R.A.S.C. at the outbreak of the war.

Another well-known player to Rugby followers to die as the result of an accident is B. H. Cattell, who was knocked down by a motor car and killed near Coventry, when on duty as a special constable. In his younger days he was on the verge of international honours as a forward of the robust type, and once chosen as reserve for England. For years he played for Moseley, then at the height of their power, and for the Midland Counties.

He was a brother of R. H. Cattell, the Oxford and England scrum half-back, and until three years ago practised as an auctioneer at Rugby.

Other Sportsmen

Other sportsmen who have been reported killed recently are—

Lieut. Peter Eckersley, R.N.V.R. (Air Division), the Lancashire cricketer, who has been killed in action. Six years he led the Lancashire Eleven, one season to the County Championship. He toured with the M.C.C. in India in 1928, and with Lionel Tennyson's side in the West Indies two years later. In 1936 he was elected to the M.C.C. Committee, following his decision the previous season to give up active cricket.

Lieut. M. D. P. Magill (Royal Berkshire Regiment), reported killed in action, was regarded as one of the finest Oxford cricketers ever to get a blue. He went to the university after two years at Eton, and played two matches for the Dark Blues. While at Eton he captained the Rugby XV.

Eton Captains Killed

It is announced by the college authorities that two other former captains of sport at Eton have been killed on active service.

They are J.F.B. Bougley, captain of cricket in 1938, a second lieutenant in the Coldstream Guards, and B. M. Fisher, captain of cricket in 1935, Pilot-Officer in the R.A.F.V.R.

Pilot-Officer G. T. N. Mitchell, recently reported killed in action, secured his hockey blue for Cambridge. He was also a Scottish international.

Six Service footballers on the League club lists when war began have lost their lives. They are—Tom Cooper (Liverpool and England right back), Robert Gordon (Huddersfield Town right half-back), Joe Carr (Sheffield United back), Frank Carpenter (Manchester United inside left), Stanley Docking (Barnsley inside left), and Greenhill Roberts (Nottingham Forest inside right). Ernest Bell (Cardiff) inside forward is reported missing in action. W. T. Whewell, who was formerly captain of England

amateur soccer team and a well-known Corinthian footballer, was killed with his wife when their house received a direct hit during a recent air raid over the South of England.

He played for England at centre-half against Scotland, Ireland and Wales. He also played for English teams in Germany, Holland and Switzerland. He was a Cambridge football blue and also played for Cambridge in minor counties cricket.

Prisoners Of War

A number of sportsmen who had been reported missing are now officially reported to be prisoners of war. The best known are—Maj. William Eldon Tucker, R.A.M.C., the English rugby international and Cambridge blue.

Capt. J. W. G. Hume, Lothians and Border Yeomanry, the Scottish rugby international and Oxford blue.

Lieut. J. W. S. Irwin, R.A.M.C. the Irish international rugby forward.

Cpl. W. R. C. Brydon, Scottish international rugby player.

NO SOCCER INTERPORT

Word has been received that Shanghai Football Association are definitely unable to send a team to Hong Kong for the Interport game during Chinese New Year.

Several causes contributed to their decision, among these being, the difficulty of their players, most of whom are Volunteers, obtaining leave; the uncertainty of sailing dates between the two ports and their probable inability to raise a representative side, in view of the departure of the British troops.

Lieut.-Col. Guy J. German, who obtained his rugby blue at Oxford in 1922.

Capt. Jack Fawcus, the prominent steeplechase jockey Lieut. W. Roberts, the Newport County and former Bristol City full-back.

Basil Rought-Rought, the Norfolk opening batsman.

B. J. Wood, the Norfolk wicket-keeper.—Reuter.

FROM HERE AND THERE

TOM PILE AGAIN BEATS CHRIS IN SNOOKER FINAL

Tom Pile beat his brother Chris in the Final of the Snooker Handicap at the Prison Officers' Club, Stanley, last week. It is interesting to note that they were both minus 56. Earlier in the month they met in the Final of the Championship, which the former also won.

Dr. D. J. Valentine, who was seen in the full-back position for the Hospital Division against the Health Division in the charity football match yesterday last played football in 1928-29, when he turned out for the Police R.C. Incidentally, T. Pile, who was also a member of the Police team that year, figured at right-wing, also for the Hospital side.

Choy Wing-chiu, formerly one of the finest badminton players in the Colony, has been unable to turn out hitherto this season on account of an injury sustained when roller-skating.

It is learned that G. R. Razavet, the Hong Kong Cricket Club lawn bowler, will be leaving the Colony on transfer shortly.

Lieut. Cuthbertson, of Royal Scots, is making a rapid recovery from the broken arm which he sustained in a recent Rugby match.

George Duncan, Hong Kong Football Club and Colony Interport lawn bowler, will be leaving the Colony in the course of the next few days for a six months holiday in Australia. Duncan is looking forward to this as he will

NO HOCKEY ON SUNDAY

Owing to the Christmas and New Year festivities Hong Kong Hockey Association have decided to cancel all Tournament matches fixed for Sunday.

be in Australia for the lawn bowls season and hopes to get quite a number of games in Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne.

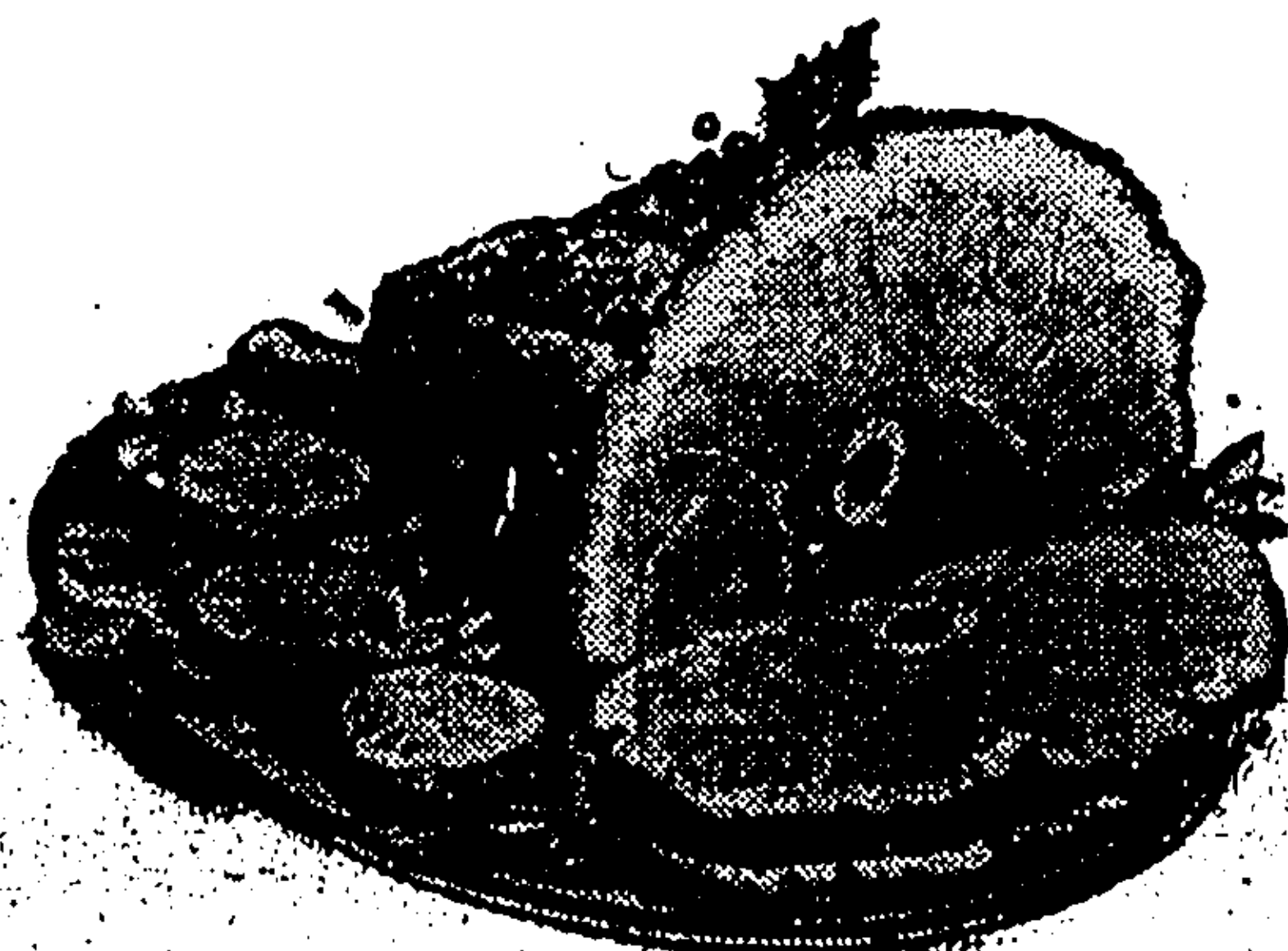
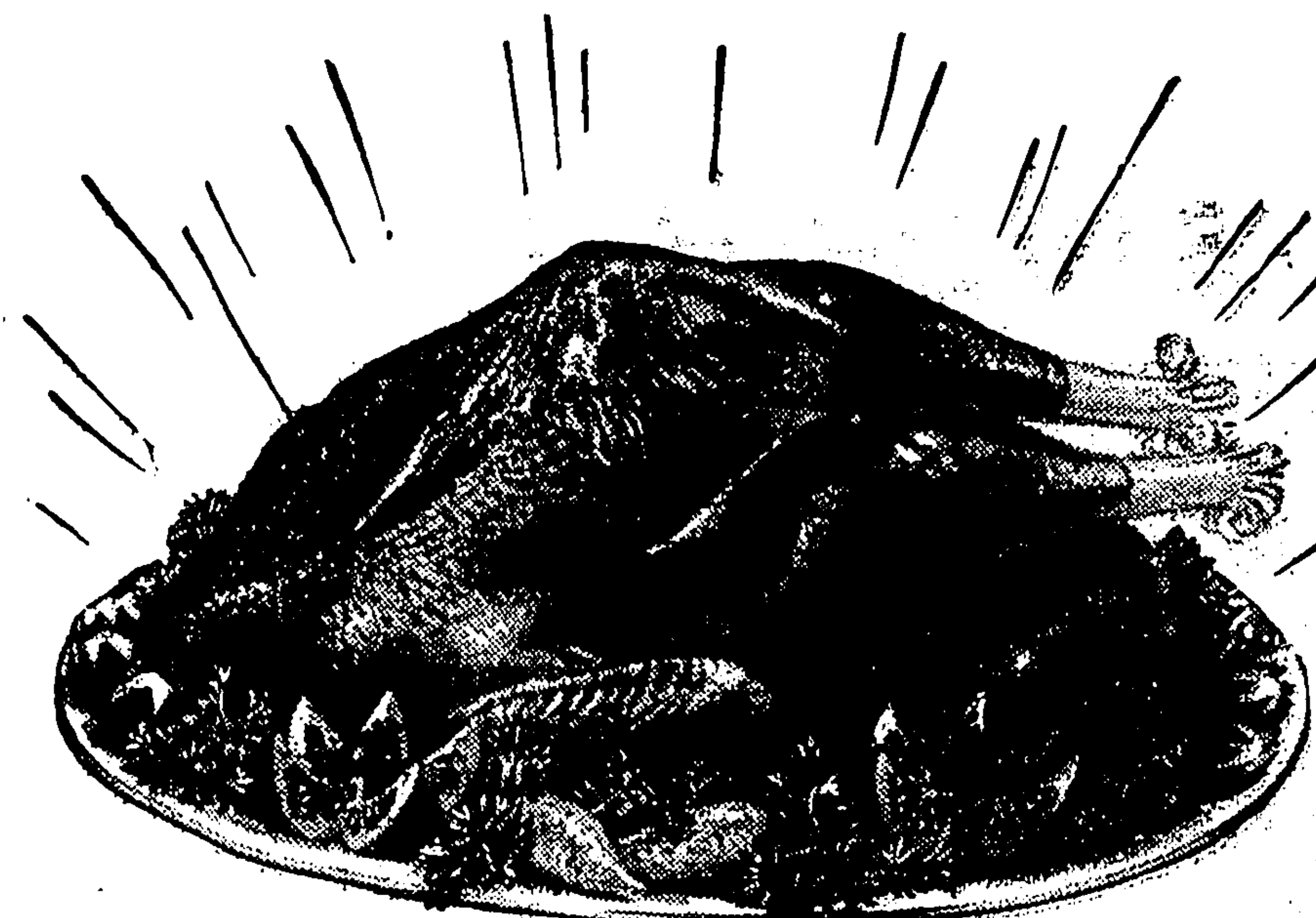
A very enjoyable evening was spent by members of the Prison Officers' Club on Thursday when the first of the monthly "Ewo Nights" was held. Spoons for billiards, snooker and darts were presented by Ewo Breweries Ltd., and these were won by C. Gowland, F. N. Hill and J. Marvin respectively.

A FINE SELECTION OF AUSTRALIAN TURKEYS

\$ 1.20

PER LB.

PRIME TENDER
PRIZE BIRDS



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Dairy Farm	80 cts. lb.
Australian	\$1.45 lb.
Pineapple	\$1.80 lb.

The Dairy Farm, Ice & Cold Storage Co., Ltd.
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CAROL UNDER "ARREST"

Detained In Seville Hotel At Suner's Orders

GREEK CHIMARRA TRIUMPH

Flags will be flown for three days in Greece in celebration of the capture of Cimarre (Chimarra), the fall of which has been officially announced in Athens.

Amongst the latest prisoners to be taken by the Greeks are 30 officers and 800 men composing the 153rd Battalion of Black-shirts; these troops arrived in Albania a fortnight ago.

The capture of Cimarre was achieved despite very bad weather, which slowed up the Greek advance, and has taken the Greeks along the coastal road to Valona.

Those Italians who escaped from the city will have to repeat what happened when Santa Quaranta fell — they will have to fight a desperate rear-guard action in an attempt to hold up the Greeks.

Heavy fighting is continuing in the Tepelini sector, where the Alpini divisions have suffered another defeat and enabled the Greeks to take more villages and strategic heights. — Reuter.

ARTILLERYMEN FROM N'F'LAND

ANOTHER CONTINGENT OF NEWFOUNDLAND ARTILLERY REACHED A BRITISH WEST COAST PORT YESTERDAY.

The contingent was welcomed by the Trade Commissioner for Newfoundland. — Reuter.

Dramatic Revelations In London

"I HAVE GOOD reason for believing that ex-King Carol's life is actually endangered; he is detained in the Andalusian Hotel at Seville by the order of Serrano Suner, Spanish Minister of Interior, acting under pressure from Berlin — he cannot move or make any plans."

This dramatic statement was made to Reuter last night by the former Rumanian Minister in London, M. V. V. Tilea, now leader of the Free Rumania movement.

"I want to make it clear," declared M. Tilea, "that the Free Rumania movement does not propose to have anything to do with ex-King Carol, and I am not in direct touch with him, but my information comes from a reliable source and I feel a protest against this totally unjustified treatment of a private individual is urgently called for."

"Senor Suner has Carol to thank for his life in the Spanish Civil War, because he was given refuge in the Rumanian Legation in Madrid, and Carol refused to give him up despite tremendous pressure from Barcelona."

No Just Reason

"If Carol had given way Suner would certainly have met his

death then.

"There is no just reason for not allowing Carol to go."

He has given his word not to mix in politics for the duration of the war but the Spanish Government refuses to let him move. — Reuter.

ARMY PART IN FINAL RECKONING

In the final reckoning with Hitler the Army will have a decisive part to play, Mr. Anthony Eden declared yesterday in a message to General Sir John Dill, Chief of the Imperial General Staff, on leaving the War Office to assume the Foreign Secretaryship.

To all ranks, Mr. Eden expressed deep gratitude for their loyal, cheerful and unflinching help during a period which had no parallel in history.

Referring to the Egyptian campaign, Mr. Eden declared the Army of the Nile's brilliant victory was the first reward of much patient effort, no less than of dash and daring.

The quality of the Army of the Middle East to command success had been proved in Africa, as one day it would be proved in Europe. — Reuter.

STOP PRESS

FRIENDS AND FOES OF MOSLEMS

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

THE DEFEAT OF THE VAUNTED ITALIAN LEGIONS IN THE WESTERN DESERT IS HAILED BY THE MOSLEM WORLD AS A TRIUMPH FOR DEMOCRATIC FREEDOM.

Two of the greatest Moslems in the Oriental world, recognised by all the Faithful as accredited leaders in politics as well as religion, yesterday set forth their views in Cairo.

Premier Hussein Sirri Pasha, leader of the Egyptian Government, who identified himself as "speaking as a Moslem," said: "The Moslem religion is a religion of acts not words. Moslems can easily see who are acting as their friends and who as foe."

"I and all Egyptians are overjoyed that the Italian soldiers have been driven out of Egypt. This satisfaction is clearly shown by messages which my King has charged me to deliver to the British commanders and to the British Government."

Nahas Pasha's Comment

Mustafa Nahas Pasha, former Premier and chief of the Wafd Party, said: "Moslem sympathies are entirely with the Democrats in this fight between the Dictators and the Democracies."

"The British victory is considered by all Moslems in the East as a triumph for Democratic freedom."

"But Western Democracy must realise that its victory will mean everything to us only if coupled with the triumph of Democracy in the East. Only then will the triumph of Democracy be complete."

Temporary Eclipse

"For I regret to say that Democracy is temporarily eclipsed in our Oriental countries."

No form of dictatorship and other Fascist or Communist rule can ever take root in modern Egypt or any other Moslem or Arabic country. — International News Service.

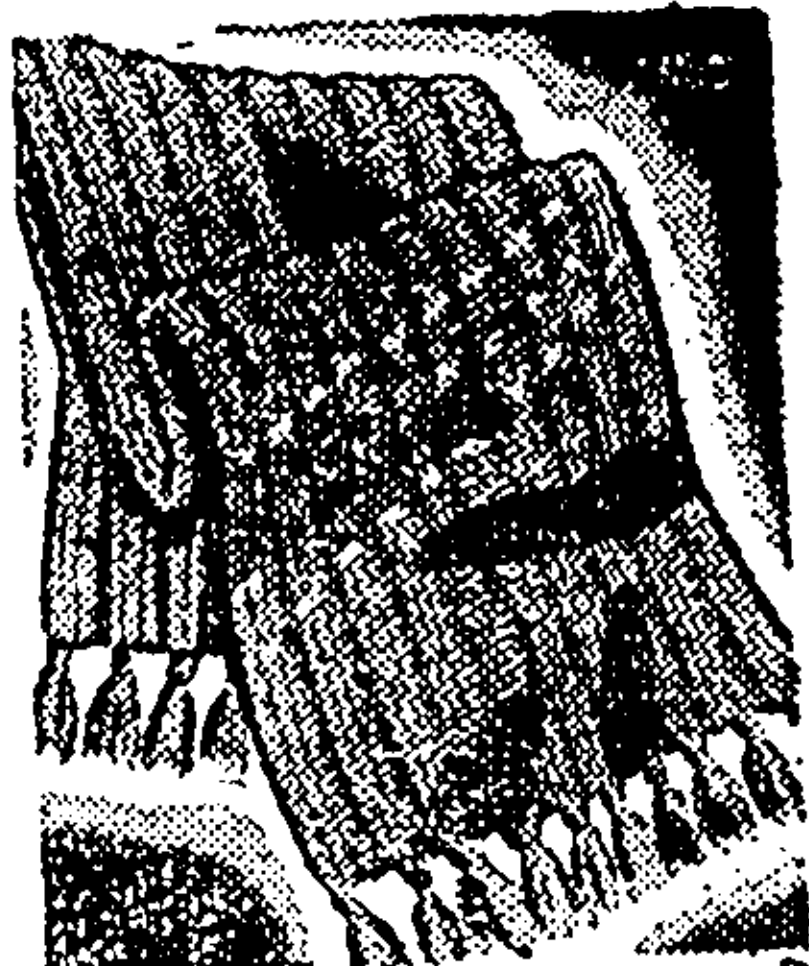
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